

Square, Inc.
Form 10-Q
November 02, 2016
UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2016

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File Number: 001-37622

Square, Inc.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 80-0429876
(State or other jurisdiction of (IRS Employer
incorporation or organization) Identification No.)

1455 Market Street, Suite 600
San Francisco, CA 94103
(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)
(415) 375-3176
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if smaller reporting company) Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes No

As of October 25, 2016, the number of shares of the registrant's Class A common stock outstanding was 166,302,906 and the number of shares of the registrant's Class B common stock outstanding was 185,836,069.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page No.	
PART I—Financial Information	
Item 1. Financial Statements	
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited)	<u>4</u>
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited)	<u>5</u>
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss (unaudited)	<u>6</u>
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited)	<u>7</u>
Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)	<u>8</u>
Item 2. Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	<u>23</u>
Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	<u>33</u>
Item 4. Controls and Procedures	<u>33</u>
PART II—Other Information	
Item 1. Legal Proceedings	<u>35</u>
Item 1A. Risk Factors	<u>35</u>
Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds	<u>52</u>
Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities	<u>52</u>
Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures	<u>52</u>
Item 5. Other Information	<u>52</u>
Item 6. Exhibits	<u>52</u>
Signatures	<u>53</u>

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, that involve substantial risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements generally relate to future events or our future financial or operating performance. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements because they contain words such as “may,” “will,” “appears,” “should,” “expects,” “plans,” “anticipates,” “could,” “intends,” “target,” “projects,” “believes,” “estimates,” “predicts,” “potential,” or “continue,” or the negative of these words or other similar terms or expressions that concern our expectations, strategy, plans, or intentions. Forward-looking statements contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q include, but are not limited to, statements about our future financial performance, our anticipated growth and growth strategies and our ability to effectively manage that growth, our ability to develop our products and services to operate with changing technology, our anticipated expansion and growth in Gross Payment Volume (GPV) and revenue in international markets, our plans for funding and expanding Square Capital, our expectations regarding litigation, our expectations regarding the effect the Starbucks transition will have on our net revenue, and the sufficiency of our cash and cash equivalents and cash generated from operations to meet our working capital and capital expenditure requirements.

The outcome of the events described in these forward-looking statements is subject to risks, uncertainties, and other factors described in the section titled “Risk Factors” and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

We undertake no obligation to update any forward-looking statements made in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q to reflect events or circumstances after the date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or to reflect new information or the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as required by law.

Part I—Financial Information

Item 1. Financial Statements

SQUARE, INC.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except share and per share data)

	September 30, 2016	December 31, 2015
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 437,900	\$ 470,775
Short-term investments	76,427	—
Restricted cash	13,559	13,537
Settlements receivable	233,812	142,727
Loans held for sale	28,817	604
Merchant cash advance receivable, net	8,268	36,473
Other current assets	44,244	41,447
Total current assets	843,027	705,563
Property and equipment, net	89,957	87,222
Goodwill	56,699	56,699
Acquired intangible assets, net	20,252	26,776
Long-term investments	15,478	—
Restricted cash	23,137	14,686
Other assets	3,658	3,826
Total assets	\$ 1,052,208	\$ 894,772
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 13,719	\$ 18,869
Customers payable	364,434	224,811
Accrued transaction losses	21,428	17,176
Accrued expenses	41,943	44,401
Other current liabilities	44,500	28,945
Total current liabilities	486,024	334,202
Other liabilities	55,795	52,522
Total liabilities	541,819	386,724
Commitments and contingencies (Note 17)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.0000001 par value: 100,000,000 shares authorized at September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015. None issued and outstanding at September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015.	—	—
Common stock, \$0.0000001 par value: 1,000,000,000 Class A shares authorized at September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; 162,988,864 and 31,717,133 issued and outstanding at September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively. 500,000,000 Class B shares authorized at both September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015; 188,328,922 and 303,232,312 issued and outstanding at September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, respectively.	—	—
Additional paid-in capital	1,274,248	1,116,882
Accumulated deficit	(764,072)	(607,649)
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss)	213	(1,185)
Total stockholders' equity	510,389	508,048

Total liabilities and stockholders' equity \$ 1,052,208 \$ 894,772

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

SQUARE, INC.
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(Unaudited)

(In thousands, except per share data)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Revenue:				
Transaction revenue	\$388,347	\$280,955	\$1,053,664	\$751,929
Starbucks transaction revenue	7,164	32,332	78,869	95,199
Software and data product revenue	35,320	14,694	88,833	35,628
Hardware revenue	8,171	4,207	35,438	10,002
Total net revenue	439,002	332,188	1,256,804	892,758
Cost of revenue:				
Transaction costs	254,061	182,007	683,194	479,937
Starbucks transaction costs	4,528	41,410	69,810	118,542
Software and data product costs	12,524	5,593	31,701	13,820
Hardware costs	15,689	5,726	56,444	16,636
Amortization of acquired technology	1,886	1,142	6,142	2,886
Total cost of revenue	288,688	235,878	847,291	631,821
Gross profit	150,314	96,310	409,513	260,937
Operating expenses:				
Product development	70,418	55,020	203,648	140,452
Sales and marketing	46,754	39,259	124,470	107,170
General and administrative	52,075	37,820	198,966	97,743
Transaction, loan and advance losses	12,885	16,005	38,201	40,840
Amortization of acquired customer assets	164	423	703	1,373
Total operating expenses	182,296	148,527	565,988	387,578
Operating loss	(31,982)	(52,217)	(156,475)	(126,641)
Interest (income) and expense, net	(183)	137	(243)	995
Other (income) and expense, net	294	644	(690)	1,390
Loss before income tax	(32,093)	(52,998)	(155,542)	(129,026)
Provision for income taxes	230	932	881	2,502
Net loss	\$(32,323)	\$(53,930)	\$(156,423)	\$(131,528)
Net loss per share:				
Basic	\$(0.09)	\$(0.35)	\$(0.46)	\$(0.88)
Diluted	\$(0.09)	\$(0.35)	\$(0.46)	\$(0.88)
Weighted-average shares used to compute net loss per share				
Basic	343,893	152,334	336,593	149,058
Diluted	343,893	152,334	336,593	149,058

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

SQUARE, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE LOSS
 (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30,		September 30,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Net loss	\$(32,323)	\$(53,930)	\$(156,423)	\$(131,528)
Net foreign currency translation adjustments	127	(198)	722	(455)
Net unrealized gain (loss) on revaluation of intercompany loans	74	80	\$656	\$(15)
Net unrealized gain (loss) on marketable securities	(60)	—	20	—
Total comprehensive loss	\$(32,182)	\$(54,048)	\$(155,025)	\$(131,998)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

SQUARE, INC.
 CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
 (Unaudited)
 (In thousands)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2016	2015
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net loss	\$(156,423)	\$(131,528)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	27,817	18,526
Share-based compensation	104,899	49,486
Starbucks share-based instruments	—	1,485
Provision for transaction losses	36,875	32,967
Provision for (reduction in) uncollectible merchant cash advances	509	4,616
Deferred provision for income taxes	(104)	(207)
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	(88)	240
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Settlements receivable	(91,390)	(40,729)
Purchase of loans held for sale	(421,243)	—
Proceeds from sales and principal payments of loans held for sale	393,221	—
Merchant cash advance receivable	27,696	(18,725)
Other current assets	(3,011)	(4,457)
Other assets	145	1,102
Accounts payable	(867)	2,048
Customers payable	139,105	89,446
Charge-offs and recoveries to accrued transaction losses	(32,623)	(25,415)
Accrued expenses	86	13,950
Other current liabilities	15,255	1,524
Other noncurrent liabilities	2,376	8,801
Net cash provided by operating activities	42,235	3,130
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of marketable securities	(139,103)	—
Proceeds from maturities of marketable securities	26,268	—
Proceeds from sale of marketable securities	20,962	—
Purchase of property and equipment	(19,674)	(30,724)
Payment for acquisition of intangible assets	(400)	(110)
Change in restricted cash	(8,473)	(252)
Business acquisitions (net of cash acquired)	—	(4,500)
Net cash used in investing activities	(120,420)	(35,586)
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Principal payments on debt	—	(30,000)
Payments of offering costs related to initial public offering	(5,530)	—
Proceeds from issuances of common stock from the exercise of options and employee stock purchase plan	48,304	12,209
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	42,774	(17,791)
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	2,536	(970)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(32,875)	(51,217)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	470,775	225,300
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$437,900	\$174,083

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

7

SQUARE, INC.

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Unaudited)

NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF BUSINESS AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Business

Square, Inc. (together with its subsidiaries, Square or the Company) creates tools that help sellers of all sizes start, run, and grow their businesses – from payment processing to point of sale, hardware to software, business loans to payroll and more. Businesses and individuals can also use Square Cash, an easy way to send and receive money, as well as Caviar, a food delivery service for popular restaurants. Square was founded in 2009 and is headquartered in San Francisco, with offices in the United States, Canada, Japan, and Australia.

Initial Public Offering

In November 2015, the Company completed its Initial Public Offering (IPO) in which it issued and sold 29,700,000 shares of Class A common stock at a public offering price of \$9.00 per share and a selling stockholder sold 1,350,000 shares of Class A common stock. The Company did not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares by the selling stockholder. The total net proceeds received by the Company from the IPO were \$245.7 million after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions of \$14.7 million and other offering expenses of approximately \$6.9 million.

Out of Period Adjustments

During the three months ended June 30, 2016, the Company recorded an out of period adjustment of \$6.0 million to transaction, loan and advance losses as a result of a correction to the calculation of its reserve for transaction losses. The adjustment was recorded to correct an understatement of transaction losses in prior periods. Of the total amount of this adjustment, \$0.5 million is related to the three months ended March 31, 2016, and \$2.6 million, \$1.6 million and \$1.0 million is related to the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively. The remaining \$0.3 million is related to historical periods. The Company does not believe that such amounts are material with respect to the estimated operating loss or estimated net loss for the current fiscal year or any previously reported consolidated financial statements.

Litigation Settlement

On June 8, 2016, a final, definitive settlement agreement (Settlement Agreement) was entered into by Robert E. Morley, REM Holdings 3, LLC, Jack Dorsey, Jim McKelvey, and the Company. The Settlement Agreement required an aggregate total payment of \$50 million to plaintiffs, including meaningful contributions by Mr. Dorsey and Mr. McKelvey. The Company made a payment of \$48 million to plaintiffs and met its obligations under the Settlement Agreement. This amount was classified within general and administrative expenses on the condensed consolidated statements of operations for the nine months ended September 30, 2016. On June 17, 2016, the Court entered an Order dismissing the complaints in their entirety, with prejudice.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying interim condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company are unaudited. These interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for interim financial information. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements. The December 31, 2015 condensed consolidated balance sheet was derived from the audited financial statements as of that date, but does not

include all of the information and footnotes required by U.S. GAAP for complete financial statements.

The accompanying unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the same basis as the audited consolidated financial statements and, in the opinion of management, reflect all adjustments of a normal recurring nature considered necessary to state fairly the Company's consolidated financial position, results of operations, comprehensive loss, and cash flows for the interim periods. All intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. The interim results for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2016, or for any other future annual or interim period.

The information included in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q should be read in conjunction with “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations,” “Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk,” and the Consolidated Financial Statements and notes thereto included in Items 7, 7A, and 8, respectively, in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the Company’s consolidated financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue, and expenses, as well as related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from the Company’s estimates. To the extent that there are material differences between these estimates and actual results, the Company’s financial condition or operating results will be materially affected. The Company bases its estimates on past experience and other assumptions that the Company believes are reasonable under the circumstances, and the Company evaluates these estimates on an ongoing basis.

Significant estimates, judgments, and assumptions in these consolidated financial statements include, but are not limited to, those related to revenue recognition, accrued transaction losses, provision for uncollectible receivables related to merchant cash advances (MCAs), valuation of loans held for sale, business combinations, goodwill and intangible assets, income taxes, and share-based compensation.

Concentration of Credit Risk

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company had no customer that accounted for greater than 10% of total net revenue. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, the Company had no customer other than Starbucks that accounted for greater than 10% of total net revenue. The Company had three third-party processors that represented approximately 47%, 39%, and 11% of settlements receivable as of September 30, 2016. The same three parties represented approximately 56%, 23%, and 16% of settlements receivable as of December 31, 2015.

The Company places its cash and cash equivalents and investments in marketable securities with large creditworthy U.S. financial institutions. Balances in these accounts may exceed federally insured limits at times.

Significant Accounting Policies

Except as described below, there have been no material changes to the Company’s significant accounting policies during the nine months ended September 30, 2016, as compared to the significant accounting policies described in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Loans Held for Sale

The Company provides loans to sellers prequalified through an analysis of the aggregated data of the seller’s business which includes, but is not limited to, the seller’s historical processing volumes, transaction count, chargebacks, growth, and length of time as a Square customer. The loans are originated by a bank, from whom the Company purchases the loans obtaining all rights, title, and interest.

The loans are classified as held for sale upon purchase, as it is the Company’s intent to sell all of its rights, title, and interest in these loans to third-party investors for an up-front origination fee when the loans are sold. The Company also earns a servicing fee by continuing to service the loans by remitting monies to the third-party investors. Revenue from origination fees are recognized upon transfer of title to investors and servicing revenue is recognized as servicing is delivered.

A loan that is initially designated as held for sale may be reclassified to held for investment if and when the Company’s intent for that loan changes. There have been no reclassifications made to date. Loans are recorded at the lower of cost or fair value. To determine the fair value of loans, the Company utilizes industry standard modeling,

such as discounted cash flow models, to arrive at an estimate of fair value.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In May 2014, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers, and issued subsequent amendments to the initial guidance within ASU 2015-04, ASU 2016-08, ASU 2016-10, and ASU 2016-12. The new guidance will replace all current U.S. GAAP guidance on

this topic and eliminate all industry specific guidance. The core principal of this new guidance is that revenue is recognized when promised goods or services are transferred to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration for which the Company expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption permitted. The guidance can be applied either retrospectively to each period presented or as a cumulative effect adjustment as of the date of adoption. The Company has not yet selected a transition method and is evaluating the impact of adopting this new accounting standard update on the consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-04, Recognition of Breakage for Certain Prepaid Stored-Value Products. This guidance specifies how prepaid stored-value product liabilities should be derecognized, thereby eliminating the current and potential future diversity in practice. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this new guidance may have on the consolidated financial statements.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-09, Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting, which is intended to simplify several aspects of the accounting for share-based payment transactions, including the income tax consequences, classification of awards as either equity or liabilities, and classification on the statement of cash flows. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016, and interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this new guidance may have on the consolidated financial statements.

In June 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-13, Measurement of Credit Losses on Financial Instruments, which requires measurement and recognition of expected credit losses for financial assets held. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2019, and interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this new guidance may have on the consolidated financial statements.

In August 2016, the FASB issues ASU No. 2016-15, Classification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments. This guidance addresses several specific cash flow issues with the objective of reducing the existing diversity in practice. This guidance is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2017, and interim periods within those fiscal years, with early adoption permitted. The Company is currently evaluating the impact this new guidance may have on the consolidated financial statements.

NOTE 2 - RESTRICTED CASH

As of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, restricted cash of \$13.6 million and \$13.5 million, respectively, is related to pledged cash deposited into savings accounts at the financial institutions that process the Company's sellers' payment transactions. The Company uses the restricted cash to secure letters of credit with the financial institutions to provide collateral for cash flow timing differences in the processing of these payments. The Company has recorded this amount as a current asset on the condensed consolidated balance sheets due to the short-term nature of these cash flow timing differences and that there is no minimum time frame during which the cash must remain restricted.

As of September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, the remaining restricted cash of \$23.1 million and \$14.7 million, respectively, is primarily related to cash deposited into money market funds that is used as collateral pursuant to multi-year lease agreements entered into in 2012 and 2014 (see Note 17) and as collateral pursuant to an agreement with the originating bank for the Company's loan product. The Company has recorded this amount as a non-current asset on the condensed consolidated balance sheets as the terms extend beyond one year.

NOTE 3 - FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Company measures its cash equivalents and short-term and long-term investments at fair value. The Company classifies its cash equivalents and short-term and long-term investments within Level 1 or Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy because the Company values these investments using quoted market prices or alternative pricing sources and models utilizing market observable inputs.

10

The Company's financial assets and liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis are classified as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2016			December 31, 2015		
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Cash and Cash Equivalents:						
Money market funds	\$209,364	\$—	\$—	-\$337,234	\$—	\$—
Commercial paper	—	1,500	—	—	—	—
Short-term securities:						
U.S. agency securities	—	13,088	—	—	—	—
Corporate bonds	—	19,787	—	—	—	—
Commercial paper	—	17,455	—	—	—	—
Municipal securities	—	6,529	—	—	—	—
U.S. government securities	19,568	—	—	—	—	—
Long-term securities:						
U.S. agency securities	—	6,519	—	—	—	—
Corporate bonds	—	4,423	—	—	—	—
Municipal securities	—	3,033	—	—	—	—
U.S. government securities	1,503	—	—	—	—	—
Total	\$230,435	\$72,334	\$—	-\$337,234	\$—	\$—

Loans are recorded at the lower of cost or fair value. To determine the fair value of loans, the Company utilizes industry-standard valuation modeling, such as discounted cash flow models, to arrive at an estimate of fair value.

A summary of loans disclosed at fair value on a recurring basis is as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2016	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value (Level 3)
Loans held for sale	28,817	29,778
Total	28,817	29,778

As of December 31, 2015, the difference between the fair value of loans and the carrying value was insignificant. The carrying amounts of certain financial instruments, including cash equivalents, settlements receivable, merchant cash advance receivable, accounts payable, customers payable, and settlements payable, approximate their fair values due to their short-term nature.

If applicable, the Company will recognize transfers into and out of levels within the fair value hierarchy at the end of the reporting period in which the actual event or change in circumstance occurs. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015, the Company did not have any transfers in or out of Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 assets or liabilities.

NOTE 4 - INVESTMENTS

The Company determines the appropriate classification of its investments in marketable securities at the time of purchase and reevaluates such designation at each balance sheet date. The Company has classified and accounted for its marketable securities as available-for-sale.

The Company's short-term and long-term investments as of September 30, 2016 are as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
Short-term securities:				
U.S. agency securities	\$ 13,076	\$ 12	\$ —	\$13,088
Corporate bonds	19,795	—	(8)	19,787
Commercial paper	17,455	—	—	17,455
Municipal securities	6,530	—	(1)	6,529
U.S. government securities	19,552	16	—	19,568
Total	\$ 76,408	\$ 28	\$ (9)	\$76,427
Long-term securities:				
U.S. agency securities	\$ 6,508	\$ 11	\$ —	\$6,519
Corporate bonds	4,419	4	—	4,423
Municipal securities	3,038	—	(5)	3,033
U.S. government securities	1,500	3	—	1,503
Total	\$ 15,465	\$ 18	\$ (5)	\$15,478

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, gains or losses realized on the sale of investments were insignificant. Investments are reviewed periodically to identify possible other-than-temporary impairments. As the Company has the ability and intent to hold these investments with unrealized losses until a recovery of fair value, or for a reasonable period of time sufficient for the recovery of fair value, which may be maturity, the Company does not consider these investments to be other-than-temporarily impaired as of September 30, 2016.

The contractual maturities of the Company's short-term and long-term investments as of September 30, 2016 are as follows (in thousands):

	Amortized Cost	Fair Value
Due in one year or less	\$ 76,408	\$76,427
Due in one to five years	15,465	15,478
Total	\$ 91,873	\$91,905

NOTE 5 - ALLOWANCE FOR MERCHANT CASH ADVANCE LOSSES

The following table summarizes the activities of the Company's allowance for uncollectible merchant cash advance receivables (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2016		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015	
Allowance for uncollectible MCA receivables, beginning of the period	\$5,091	\$5,277	\$7,443	\$2,431
Provision for uncollectible MCA receivables	602	1,468	509	4,616
MCA receivables charged off	(855)	(809)	(3,114)	(1,111)
Allowance for uncollectible MCA receivables, end of the period	\$4,838	\$5,936	\$4,838	\$5,936

As of March 31, 2016, the Company had fully transitioned from offering MCAs to loans. Activity in the table above includes updates to the Company's provision estimates for historical balances and charge offs of certain MCA receivables based on payment inactivity.

NOTE 6 - PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT, NET

The following is a summary of property, equipment, and internally-developed software at cost, less accumulated depreciation and amortization (in thousands):

	September 30, 2016	December 31, 2015
Computer equipment	\$ 50,520	\$ 43,531
Office furniture and equipment	10,110	9,339
Leasehold improvements	72,308	65,298
Capitalized software	22,761	14,533
Construction in process	670	490
Total	156,369	133,191
Less: Accumulated depreciation and amortization	(66,412)	(45,969)
Property and equipment, net	\$ 89,957	\$ 87,222

Depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment was \$7.6 million and \$20.9 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense on property and equipment was \$5.0 million and \$14.2 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively.

NOTE 7 - GOODWILL

Goodwill is recorded when the consideration paid for an acquisition of a business exceeds the fair value of identifiable net tangible and intangible assets acquired. As of both September 30, 2016 and December 31, 2015, goodwill was \$56.7 million.

The Company performs a goodwill impairment test annually on December 31 and more frequently if events and circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. For the periods presented, the Company had recorded no impairment charges.

NOTE 8 - ACQUIRED INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The following table presents the detail of acquired intangible assets as of the periods presented (in thousands):

	Balance as of September 30, 2016		
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net
Patent	\$ 1,285	\$ (427)	\$ 858
Technology Assets	29,045	(12,786)	16,259
Customer Assets	6,645	(3,510)	3,135
Total	\$36,975	\$ (16,723)	\$20,252

	Balance as of December 31, 2015		
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net
Patent	\$ 1,285	\$ (348)	\$ 937
Technology Assets	28,645	(6,644)	22,001
Customer Assets	6,645	(2,807)	3,838
Total	\$36,575	\$ (9,799)	\$26,776

The weighted average amortization periods for acquired patents, acquired technology, and customer intangible assets are approximately 13 years, three years, and six years, respectively.

Amortization expense associated with other intangible assets was \$2.1 million and \$6.9 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively. Amortization expense associated with other intangible assets was \$1.6 million and \$4.3 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively.

The total estimated annual future amortization expense of these intangible assets as of September 30, 2016 is as follows (in thousands):

2016 (remaining 3 months)	\$2,048
2017	7,187
2018	5,687
2019	2,983
2020	1,087
Thereafter	1,260
Total	\$20,252

NOTE 9 - OTHER CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET COMPONENTS (CURRENT)

Other Current Assets

The following table presents the detail of other current assets (in thousands):

	September 30, December 31,	
	2016	2015
Accounts receivable	\$ 7,407	\$ 4,808
Prepaid expenses	3,734	7,101
Deferred reader costs	3,869	4,018
Inventory	14,695	11,864
Tenant improvement reimbursement receivable	1,189	1,788
Deferred hardware costs	2,839	1,709
Processing costs receivable	4,470	7,847
Other	6,041	2,312
Total	\$ 44,244	\$ 41,447

Accrued Expenses

The following table presents the detail of accrued expenses (in thousands):

	September 30, December 31,	
	2016	2015
Accrued hardware costs	\$ 6,345	\$ 11,622
Processing costs payable	7,182	11,417
Accrued professional fees	4,247	7,642
Accrued payroll	6,712	2,660
Accrued marketing	7,147	2,443
Other accrued liabilities	10,310	8,617
Total	\$ 41,943	\$ 44,401

Other Current Liabilities

The following table presents the detail of other current liabilities (in thousands):

	September 30, December 31,	
	2016	2015
Settlements payable	27,515	\$ 13,105
Employee early exercised stock options	924	2,141
Accrued redemptions	1,369	1,066
Current portion of deferred rent	2,750	2,393
Deferred revenue	5,303	6,623
Other	6,639	3,617
Total	\$ 44,500	\$ 28,945

NOTE 10 - OTHER CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET COMPONENTS (NON-CURRENT)

Other Non-Current Assets

The following table presents the detail of other non-current assets (in thousands):

	September 30, December 31,	
	2016	2015
Deposits	\$ 2,104	\$ 1,993
Deferred tax assets	301	188
Other	1,253	1,645
Total	\$ 3,658	\$ 3,826

Other Non-Current Liabilities

The following table presents the detail of other non-current liabilities (in thousands):

	September 30, December 31,	
	2016	2015
Deferred rent	\$ 23,790	\$ 25,543
Employee early exercised stock options	201	1,128
Deferred tax liabilities	285	299
Statutory liabilities	27,554	25,492
Other	3,965	60
Total	\$ 55,795	\$ 52,522

NOTE 11 - DEBT

In November 2015, the Company entered into a revolving credit agreement with certain lenders, which extinguished the prior revolving credit agreement and provided for a \$375.0 million revolving secured credit facility maturing in November 2020. This revolving credit agreement is secured by certain tangible and intangible assets.

Loans under the credit facility bear interest at the Company's option of (i) a base rate based on the highest of the prime rate, the federal funds rate plus 0.50%, and an adjusted LIBOR rate for a one-month interest period, in each case plus a margin ranging from 0.00% to 1.00%, or (ii) an adjusted LIBOR rate plus a margin ranging from 1.00% to 2.00%.

This margin is determined based on the Company's total leverage ratio for the preceding four fiscal quarters. The Company is obligated to pay other customary fees for a credit facility of this size and type including an annual administrative agent fee of \$0.1 million and an unused commitment fee of 0.15%. To date no funds have been drawn under the credit facility, with \$375.0 million remaining available. The Company paid \$0.1 million and \$0.4 million in unused commitment fees during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively.

NOTE 12 - ACCRUED TRANSACTION LOSSES

The Company is exposed to transaction losses due to chargebacks as a result of fraud or uncollectibility. Recoveries are reflected as a reduction in the reserve for transaction losses when the recovery occurs.

The following table summarizes the activities of the Company's reserve for transaction losses (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Accrued transaction losses, beginning of the period	\$16,093	\$15,844	\$17,176	\$8,452
Provision for transaction losses	13,483	11,401	36,875	32,967
Charge-offs and recoveries to accrued transaction losses	(8,148)	(11,241)	(32,623)	(25,415)
Accrued transaction losses, end of the period	\$21,428	\$16,004	\$21,428	\$16,004

NOTE 13 - INCOME TAXES

The Company recorded an income tax expense of \$0.2 million and \$0.9 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, compared to income tax expense of \$0.9 million and \$2.5 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. The income tax expense recorded for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 was primarily due to state and foreign income tax expense.

The Company's effective tax rate was approximately (0.7)% and (0.6)% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, compared to an effective tax rate of (1.8)% and (1.9)% for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. The difference between the effective tax rate and the federal statutory tax rate for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 primarily relates to the valuation allowance on the Company's deferred tax assets.

The Company's effective tax rate may be subject to fluctuation during the year as new information is obtained, which may affect the assumptions used to estimate the annual effective tax rate, including factors such as the mix of forecasted pre-tax earnings in the various jurisdictions in which the Company operates, valuation allowances against deferred tax assets, the recognition and de-recognition of tax benefits related to uncertain tax positions, and changes in or the interpretation of tax laws in jurisdictions where the Company conducts business.

As of September 30, 2016, the Company retains a full valuation allowance on its deferred tax assets in the U.S. and certain foreign jurisdictions. The realization of the Company's deferred tax assets depends primarily on its ability to generate taxable income in future periods. The amount of deferred tax assets considered realizable in future periods may change as management continues to reassess the underlying factors it uses in estimating future taxable income. The tax provision for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 was calculated on a jurisdiction basis. The Company estimated the foreign income tax provision using the effective income tax rate expected to be applicable for the full year.

NOTE 14 - STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Common Stock

The Company has authorized the issuance of Class A common stock and Class B common stock. Class A common stock and Class B common stock are referred to as "common stock" throughout these Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, unless otherwise noted. As of September 30, 2016, the Company was authorized to issue 1,000,000,000 shares of Class A common stock and 500,000,000 shares of Class B common stock, each with a par value of \$0.0000001 per share. As of September 30, 2016, there were 162,988,864 shares of Class A common stock and 188,328,922 shares of Class B common stock outstanding. Options and awards granted following the Company's Initial Public Offering are related to underlying Class A common stock. Additionally, Class B shareholders are able to convert their shares into Class A common stock.

Stock Plans

The Company maintains two share-based employee compensation plans: the 2009 Stock Plan (2009 Plan) and the 2015 Equity Incentive Plan (2015 Plan). The 2015 Plan serves as the successor to the 2009 Plan. The 2015 Plan became effective as of November 17, 2015. Outstanding awards under the 2009 Plan continue to be subject to the terms and conditions of the 2009 Plan. Beginning November 17, 2015, no additional securities will be issued under the 2009 Plan.

Under the 2015 Plan, shares of common stock are reserved for the issuance of incentive and nonstatutory stock options, restricted stock awards, restricted stock units (RSUs), performance shares, and stock bonuses to qualified employees, directors, and consultants. The shares may be granted at a price per share not less than the fair market value at the date of grant. Initially, 30,000,000 shares were reserved under the 2015 Plan, and any shares subject to options or other similar awards granted under the 2009 Plan that expire, are forfeited, are repurchased by the Company, or otherwise terminate unexercised will become available under the 2015 Plan. The number of shares available for issuance under the 2015 Plan will be increased on the first day of each fiscal year, in an amount equal to the least of (i) 40,000,000 shares, (ii) 5% of the outstanding shares on the last day of the immediately preceding fiscal year, or (iii) such number of shares determined by the Company's board of directors. As of September 30, 2016, the total number of shares subject to stock options and RSUs outstanding under the 2015 Plan was 19,037,766, and 35,373,551 shares were available for future issuance. As of September 30, 2016, the total number of shares subject to stock options and RSUs outstanding under the 2009 Plan was 82,934,307.

A summary of stock option activity for the nine months ended September 30, 2016 is as follows (in thousands, except share and per share data):

	Number of Stock Options Outstanding	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (in years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Balance as of December 31, 2015	107,515,554	\$ 6.99	7.87	\$ 656,194
Granted	1,767,320	13.49		
Exercised	(13,559,723)	3.02		
Forfeited	(9,020,899)	\$ 10.99		
Balance as of September 30, 2016	86,702,252	7.32	7.40	418,923
Options vested and expected to vest as of September 30, 2016	81,679,340	7.10	6.81	410,515
Options exercisable as of September 30, 2016	82,443,845	7.15	7.31	411,791

Restricted Stock Activity

Activity related to RSUs during the nine months ended September 30, 2016 is set forth below:

	Number of RSUs	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Unvested as of December 31, 2015	3,632,765	\$ 13.14
Granted	14,546,288	12.12
Vested	(1,780,873)	12.48
Forfeited	(1,128,359)	13.09
Unvested as of September 30, 2016	15,269,821	\$ 12.25

Share-Based Compensation

The fair value of stock options and employee stock purchase plan shares granted to employees is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes-Merton option valuation model.

Effective August 31, 2015, the Company modified all of its nonstatutory stock option grants to extend the exercise term for terminated employees who have completed two years of service. In the event of a termination, the modified expiration date will be the earlier of (i) three years from termination or (ii) one year following an initial public offering, if in each case, the date of termination occurs between August 31, 2015 and the nine-month anniversary of the initial public offering. In all cases, the grants remain subject to earlier expiration in accordance with their original terms. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, share-based compensation expense included \$0.6 million and \$2.0 million, respectively, related to the vested portion of the impacted options, as a result of the modification. The Company will incur an additional \$5.2 million of share-based compensation expense over the remaining vesting periods of the impacted options.

The fair value of stock options granted was estimated using the following weighted-average assumptions:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2016		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015	
	—	%	—	%
Dividend yield	—	%	—	%
Risk-free interest rate	1.31	%	1.69	%
Expected volatility	43.51	%	44.56	%
Expected term (years)	6.08		6.08	6.06

The following table summarizes the effects of share-based compensation on the Company's condensed consolidated statements of operations (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2016		Nine Months Ended September 30, 2015	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Product development	\$23,949	\$13,938	\$70,064	\$33,287
Sales and marketing	3,697	1,750	9,963	4,524
General and administrative	9,133	5,105	24,872	11,675
Total	\$36,779	\$20,793	\$104,899	\$49,486

On November 17, 2015, the Company's 2015 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP) became effective. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, the Company recorded \$0.8 million and \$3.8 million, respectively, of share-based compensation expense related to the ESPP, which is included in the table above. There was no similar activity during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

The Company capitalized \$1.2 million and \$2.0 million of share-based compensation expense related to capitalized software during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively. There was no similar activity during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

As of September 30, 2016, there was \$272.4 million of total unrecognized compensation cost related to outstanding stock options that is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.95 years.

NOTE 15 - LOSS PER SHARE

Basic net loss per share is computed by dividing the net loss by the weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted loss per share is the same as basic loss per share for all years presented because the effects of potentially dilutive items were anti-dilutive given the Company's net loss.

The following table presents the calculation of basic and diluted net loss per share (in thousands, except per share data):

	Three Months Ended		Nine Months Ended	
	September 30, 2016	2015	September 30, 2016	2015
Net loss	\$(32,323)	\$(53,930)	\$(156,423)	\$(131,528)
Basic shares:				
Weighted-average common shares outstanding	346,299	156,206	339,728	153,965
Weighted-average unvested shares	(2,406)	(3,872)	(3,135)	(4,907)
Weighted-average shares used to compute basic net loss per share	343,893	152,334	336,593	149,058
Diluted shares:				
Weighted-average shares used to compute diluted loss per share	343,893	152,334	336,593	149,058
Net loss per share:				
Basic	\$(0.09)	\$(0.35)	\$(0.46)	\$(0.88)
Diluted	\$(0.09)	\$(0.35)	\$(0.46)	\$(0.88)

The following potential common shares were excluded from the calculation of diluted net loss per share because their effect would have been anti-dilutive for the periods presented (in thousands):

	Three and Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2016	2015
Stock options and restricted stock units	101,972	106,234
Common stock warrants	9,458	9,457
Preferred stock warrants	—	87
Convertible preferred stock	—	135,253
Unvested shares	1,997	3,872
Employee stock purchase plan	637	—
Total anti-dilutive securities	114,064	254,903

NOTE 16 - OTHER INCOME AND EXPENSE, NET

Other income and expense, net, is comprised of the following (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Net (gain) loss on foreign exchange	\$217	\$610	\$(789)	\$1,324
Other	77	34	99	66
Total other (income) and expense, net	\$294	\$644	\$(690)	\$1,390

NOTE 17 - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Operating and Capital Leases

The Company has entered into various non-cancelable operating leases for certain offices with contractual lease periods expiring between 2016 and 2025. The Company recognized total rental expenses under operating leases of \$2.9 million and \$8.4 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, compared to \$3.1 million and \$9.8 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments under non-cancelable operating leases (with initial or remaining lease terms in excess of one year) and future minimum capital lease payments as of September 30, 2016 are as follows (in thousands):

	Capital	Operating
Year:		
2016 (remaining 3 months)	\$ 116	\$4,017
2017	449	16,610
2018	406	16,386
2019	299	15,510
2020	—	15,590
Thereafter	—	51,631
Total	\$1,270	\$119,744
Less amount representing interest	(3)	
Present value of capital lease obligations	1,267	
Less current portion of capital lease obligation	(458)	
Non-current portion of capital lease obligation	\$809	

Litigation

The Company is currently a party to, and may in the future be involved in, various litigation matters (including intellectual property litigation), legal claims, and government investigations.

The Company is involved in a class action lawsuit concerning independent contractors in connection with the Company's Caviar business. On March 19, 2015, Jeffrey Levin, on behalf of a putative nationwide class, filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California against the Company's wholly owned subsidiary, Caviar, Inc., which, as amended, alleges that Caviar misclassified Mr. Levin and other similarly situated couriers as independent contractors and, in doing so, violated various provisions of the California Labor Code and California Business and Professions Code by requiring them to pay various business expenses that should have been borne by Caviar. The Court compelled arbitration of Mr. Levin's individual claims on November 16, 2015 and dismissed the lawsuit in its entirety with prejudice on May 2, 2016. On June 1, 2016, Mr. Levin filed a Notice of Appeal of the Court's order compelling arbitration with the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Levin filed his opening appellate brief regarding the order compelling arbitration of his individual claims on October 7, 2016. The Company's answering brief is due November 7, 2016. Mr. Levin also sought an award of penalties pursuant to the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (PAGA). The parties stipulated that Mr. Levin would no longer pursue this PAGA claim, but this claim may instead be pursued by a different courier.

In addition, from time to time, the Company is involved in various other litigation matters and disputes arising in the ordinary course of business. While it is not feasible to predict or determine the ultimate outcome of these matters, the Company believes that none of the Company's current legal proceedings will have a material adverse effect on the Company's business.

NOTE 18 - SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Operating segments are defined as components of an enterprise for which discrete financial information is available that is evaluated regularly by the chief operating decision maker (CODM) for purposes of allocating resources and evaluating financial performance. The Company's CODM reviews financial information presented on a consolidated basis for purposes of allocating resources and evaluating financial performance. As such, the Company's operations constitute a single operating segment and one reportable segment.

Revenue

Revenue by geography is based on the billing addresses of the merchants. The following table sets forth revenue by geographic area (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2016	2015	2016	2015
Revenue				
United States	\$421,317	\$320,858	\$1,210,704	\$863,148
International	17,685	11,330	46,100	29,610
Total net revenue	\$439,002	\$332,188	\$1,256,804	\$892,758

No individual country from the international markets contributed in excess of 10% of total revenue for three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015.

Long-Lived Assets

The following table sets forth long-lived assets by geographic area (in thousands):

	September 30, December 31,	
	2016	2015
Long-lived assets		
United States	\$ 164,152	\$ 168,583
International	2,756	2,114
Total long-lived assets	\$ 166,908	\$ 170,697

NOTE 19 - SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION

The supplemental disclosures of cash flow information consist of the following (in thousands):

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2016	2015
Supplemental Cash Flow Data:		
Cash paid for interest	\$428	\$ 888
Cash paid for income taxes	321	1,798
Supplemental disclosures of non-cash investing and financing activities:		
Change in purchases of property and equipment in accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,310	4,366
Fair value of shares issued related to acquisitions	—	27,456

Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

You should read the following discussion and analysis in conjunction with the information set forth within the condensed consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto included elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. The statements in this discussion regarding our expectations of our future performance, liquidity and capital resources, our plans, estimates, beliefs and expectations that involve risks and uncertainties, and other non-historical statements in this discussion, are forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements are subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, the risks and uncertainties described under "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Our actual results may differ materially from those contained in or implied by any forward-looking statements.

Overview

We started Square in February 2009 to enable anyone with a mobile device to accept card payments, anywhere, anytime. While we found early success providing easy access to card payments, commerce extends beyond payments. In every transaction, we see opportunity for our sellers: to learn more about which products are selling best, to reinvest in their businesses, or to create and engage loyal buyers. Although we currently generate approximately 90% of our total net revenue from payment processing services, which include revenue generated from Starbucks, we have extended our product and service offerings to include additional software and data products, all to help sellers start, run, and grow their businesses.

We work to democratize commerce—leveling the playing field for sellers of all sizes. Our focus on technology and design allows us to create products and services that are accessible, intuitive, and easy-to-use. We set simple, transparent pricing of 2.75%, or for card not present transactions 3.5% of the total transaction amount plus \$0.15 per transaction, that enables sellers to receive all of the following: deposits in 1-2 business days; chargeback protection; payment dispute assistance; and full Payment Card Industry (PCI) compliance. In addition, with our point-of-sale (POS) app, Square Register, sellers can run their business from their mobile device: receive sales reporting and analytics; send digital receipts and receive customer feedback.

We continue to add advanced software services that tailor our POS solution to specific types of sellers, such as food-related, services, and retail businesses. These advanced services are possible because of our strength in payments technology, and we monetize them through transaction or service-specific fees. Build with Square, our developer platform (APIs), allows sellers to process payments with Square through their own fully customized point of sale, as well as on their own self-hosted website.

Because of our approach, we have grown rapidly. Millions of sellers accept payments with Square. They span all types of businesses: from cabs to coffee shops, lawyers to landscapers, retail stores to restaurants. Although substantially all of our revenue is currently generated in the United States, we also serve sellers throughout Canada, Japan and, as of the first quarter of 2016, Australia. As this international base of sellers grows, we expect our Gross Payment Volume (GPV) and revenue in these regions to grow as well. We serve sellers of all sizes, ranging from a single vendor at a farmers' market to multinational businesses. Our products and services are built to scale, so sellers can stay with us over the life of their businesses.

The addition of new products and services is also a key part of our strategy. Our scale, growth, and unique insights enable us to serve sellers of all sizes with additional services, further strengthening our business. For example, we expect sellers who grow sales as a result of deploying funds from Square Capital into their business will likely also process increased payment volume with us. We are also focused on evolving each of our services to best serve our sellers, as evidenced by Square Capital's transition from offering merchant cash advances (MCAs) to offering business loans, which offer increased flexibility for sellers, and position the service for continued scalable growth.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, we processed \$13.2 billion and \$36.0 billion of GPV, up 39% and 41% from the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, our total net revenue grew to \$439 million and \$1,257 million, up 32% and 41% from the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, our Adjusted Revenue grew to \$178 million and \$495 million, up 51% and 56% from the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. We intend to continue to make investments that will serve sellers and buyers over the long term even if a return on these investments is not realized in the short term. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, we generated a net loss of \$32.3 million and \$156.4 million, respectively. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, we generated a net loss of \$53.9 million and \$131.5 million, respectively.

Results of Operations

Revenue (in thousands, except for percentages)

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change
Transaction revenue	\$388,347	\$280,955	\$107,392	38 %	\$1,053,664	\$751,929	\$301,735	40 %
Starbucks transaction revenue	7,164	32,332	\$(25,168)	(78)%	\$78,869	\$95,199	\$(16,330)	(17)%
Software and data product revenue	35,320	14,694	\$20,626	140 %	\$88,833	\$35,628	\$53,205	149 %
Hardware revenue	8,171	4,207	\$3,964	94 %	\$35,438	\$10,002	\$25,436	254 %
Total net revenue	\$439,002	\$332,188	\$106,814	32 %	\$1,256,804	\$892,758	\$364,046	41 %

Total net revenue for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$106.8 million or 32% and \$364.0 million or 41%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Transaction revenue for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$107.4 million or 38% and \$301.7 million or 40%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. This increase was attributable to growth in GPV processed for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 of 39% and 41%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. New-seller growth made up the majority of our GPV increase, while positive dollar-based retention from existing sellers also had a meaningful impact. Transaction revenue contributed 88% and 84% of total net revenue in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, compared to 85% and 84% in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively.

Starbucks transaction revenue for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 decreased by \$25.2 million or 78% and \$16.3 million or 17%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Under our amended payment processing agreement, Starbucks agreed to pay increased processing rates to us for as long as it continues to process transactions with us. As of September 30, 2016, Starbucks has almost completed its previously announced transition to another payment processor. Starbucks transaction revenue contributed 2% and 6% of total net revenue in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, compared to 10% and 11% in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively.

Software and data product revenue for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$20.6 million or 140% and \$53.2 million or 149%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. The increase was primarily driven by continued growth and expansion of Square Capital and Caviar, and to a lesser extent, the launch and expansion of new products and services, including Instant Deposit. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, Square Capital and Caviar remained the largest contributors to software and data product revenue. Software and data product revenue contributed 8% and 7% of total net revenue in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, compared to 4% in both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Hardware revenue for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$4.0 million or 94% and \$25.4 million or 254%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. During the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, the increase primarily reflected growth in shipments of our Square Reader for Europay, MasterCard, and Visa (EMV) chip cards and near field communication (NFC) following its launch in the fourth quarter of 2015. During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we generated increased sales across all of our paid hardware products, including Square Stand and third-party peripherals. Hardware revenue contributed 2% and 3% of total net revenue in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, respectively, compared to 1% in both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Edgar Filing: Square, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Total Cost of Revenue (in thousands, except for percentages)

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change
Transaction costs	\$254,061	\$182,007	\$72,054	40 %	\$683,194	\$479,937	\$203,257	42 %
Starbucks transaction costs	4,528	41,410	\$(36,882)	(89)%	\$69,810	\$118,542	\$(48,732)	(41)%
Software and data product costs	12,524	5,593	\$6,931	124 %	\$31,701	\$13,820	\$17,881	129 %
Hardware costs	15,689	5,726	\$9,963	174 %	\$56,444	\$16,636	\$39,808	239 %
Amortization of acquired technology	1,886	1,142	\$744	65 %	\$6,142	\$2,886	\$3,256	113 %
Total cost of revenue	\$288,688	\$235,878	\$52,810	22 %	\$847,291	\$631,821	\$215,470	34 %

Total cost of revenue for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$52.8 million or 22% and \$215.5 million or 34%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Transaction costs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$72.1 million or 40% and \$203.3 million or 42%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. This increase was attributable to growth in GPV processed for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 of 39% and 41%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Starbucks transaction costs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 decreased by \$36.9 million or 89% and \$48.7 million or 41%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. Starbucks' previously announced transition to another payment processor resulted in a reduction of Starbucks-related payment volume, offset by Starbucks' agreement to pay us increased processing rates. As a result, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, we experienced a decline in Starbucks transaction costs as a percent of Starbucks transaction revenue, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Software and data product costs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$6.9 million or 124% and \$17.9 million or 129%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, primarily reflecting increased costs associated with the growth of Caviar. To a lesser extent we also incurred increased amortization costs related to the development of certain software and data products.

Hardware costs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$10.0 million or 174% and \$39.8 million or 239%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. For the three and nine months ended, the increase primarily reflects growth in shipments of our Square Reader for EMV chip cards and NFC following its launch in the fourth quarter of 2015. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, the increase in hardware costs also reflects increased sales of Square Stand, third-party peripherals, and other paid hardware products. Hardware costs associated with the production of Square Stand exceed the revenue we derive from sales of Square Stand. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, the increase in hardware costs outpaced the corresponding increase in hardware revenue primarily due to \$1.1 million and \$1.7 million in costs, respectively, associated with the write-off of inventory, with no similar activity for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. Additionally, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, expenses related to inventory reserves and the revaluation of inventory increased by \$0.7 million and \$1.0 million compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, as a result of changes in standard costs and certain products approaching the end of their useful lives.

Amortization of acquired technology for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$0.7 million or 65% and \$3.3 million or 113%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. The increase was primarily related to new technology assets obtained through acquisitions that occurred in

2015.

25

Operating Expenses (in thousands, except for percentages)

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change
Product development	\$70,418	\$55,020	\$15,398	28 %	\$203,648	\$140,452	\$63,196	45 %
% of total net revenue	16	% 17	%		16	% 16	%	
Sales and marketing	\$46,754	\$39,259	\$7,495	19 %	\$124,470	\$107,170	\$17,300	16 %
% of total net revenue	11	% 12	%		10	% 12	%	
General and administrative	\$52,075	\$37,820	\$14,255	38 %	\$198,966	\$97,743	\$101,223	104 %
% of total net revenue	12	% 11	%		16	% 11	%	
Transaction, loan and advance losses	\$12,885	\$16,005	\$(3,120)	(19)%	\$38,201	\$40,840	\$(2,639)	(6)%
% of total net revenue	3	% 5	%		3	% 5	%	
Amortization of acquired customer assets	\$164	\$423	\$(259)	(61)%	\$703	\$1,373	\$(670)	(49)%
% of total net revenue	—	% —	%		—	% —	%	
Total operating expenses	\$182,296	\$148,527	\$33,769	23 %	\$565,988	\$387,578	\$178,410	46 %

Product development expenses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$15.4 million or 28% and \$63.2 million or 45%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, due to the addition of engineering, design, and product personnel in the period from September 30, 2015 to September 30, 2016, combined with increased share-based compensation expense. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, product development expenses included \$23.9 million and \$70.1 million, respectively, of share-based compensation expense, representing a \$10.0 million and \$36.8 million increase, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015.

Sales and marketing expenses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$7.5 million or 19% and \$17.3 million or 16%, respectively, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, primarily due to an increase in sales and marketing personnel in the period from September 30, 2015 to September 30, 2016. Additionally, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, there was an increase in costs associated with our Square Cash peer-to-peer transfer service compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, sales and marketing expenses included \$3.7 million and \$10.0 million of share-based compensation expense, respectively, representing a \$1.9 million and \$5.4 million increase compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, paid marketing expenditures were stable compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively.

General and administrative expenses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 increased by \$14.3 million or 38% and \$101.2 million or 104%, compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015. For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, general and administrative expenses included \$48.0 million of non-recurring expense related to the settlement of legal proceedings with Robert E. Morley, with no similar activity during the nine months ended September 30, 2015. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016, general and administrative expenses included \$9.1 million and \$24.9 million of share-based compensation expense, respectively, representing a \$4.0 million and \$13.2 million increase compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. The balance of the increased expenses was primarily due to increases in customer support, legal, compliance, risk, finance, and Square Capital operations personnel that together will drive long-term operating efficiencies as our business scales. We also experienced increased third-party legal, finance, consulting, and certain software license expenses. This increase also includes incremental costs associated with our first year adoption efforts with regard to compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Transaction, loan and advance losses for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 decreased by \$3.1 million and \$2.6 million compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. During the nine months ended September 30, 2016, we recorded an out of period adjustment of \$6.0 million as a result of a correction to the calculation of our reserve for transaction losses with no similar activity during the nine months ended September 30, 2015. However, during the nine months ended September 30, 2015, we accrued \$5.7 million related to a fraud loss from a single seller, which offsets the year over year impact of the 2016 out of period adjustment discussed above. Additionally, during both the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, we recorded an increase of \$4.1 million in our transaction loss provision to reflect updates to our risk model, with no similar activity during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016. This was offset in part by an increase attributable to growth in GPV processed for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016.

Amortization of acquired customer assets for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 decreased by \$0.3 million and \$0.7 million compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, as a result of certain customer assets reaching end of life.

Interest and Other Income and Expense, Net (in thousands, except for percentages)

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change
Interest (income) and expense, net	\$(183)	\$137	\$(320)	(234)%	\$(243)	\$995	\$(1,238)	(124)%
Other (income) and expense, net	294	644	\$(350)	(54)%	\$(690)	\$1,390	\$(2,080)	(150)%

Interest (income) and expense, net, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 changed by \$0.3 million and \$1.2 million compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, primarily driven by interest income earned on our investment in marketable securities offsetting interest expense.

Other (income) and expense, net, for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 changed by \$0.4 million and \$2.1 million compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively, driven primarily by fluctuations in foreign exchange rates.

Provision for Income Taxes (in thousands, except for percentages)

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change
Provision for income taxes	\$230	\$932	\$(702)	(75)%	\$881	\$2,502	\$(1,621)	(65)%
Effective tax rate	(0.7)%	(1.8)%			(0.6)%	(1.9)%		

Provision for income taxes for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2016 decreased by \$0.7 million and \$1.6 million compared to the three and nine months ended September 30, 2015, respectively. The decrease for both periods primarily relates to the reduction in federal income tax expense.

Key Operating Metrics and Non-GAAP Financial Measures

We collect and analyze operating and financial data to evaluate the health of our business, allocate our resources, and assess our performance. In addition to revenue, net loss, and other results under generally accepted accounting principles in the United States (GAAP), the following table sets forth key operating metrics and non-GAAP financial measures we use to evaluate our business. Each of these metrics and measures excludes the effect of our payment processing agreement with Starbucks. As of September 30, 2016, Starbucks has almost completed its previously announced transition to another payment processor. As a result, we believe it is useful to exclude Starbucks activity to clearly show the impact Starbucks has had on our financial results historically, to provide insight into the impact of the expected termination of the Starbucks agreement on our revenues going forward, to facilitate period-to-period comparisons of our business, and to facilitate comparisons of our performance to that of other payment processors. Our agreements with other sellers, including Starbucks, generally provide both those sellers and us the unilateral right to terminate such agreements at any time, without fine or penalty. Furthermore, we generally do not enter into long-term contractual agreements with sellers.

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change
	(in thousands, except GPV)				(in thousands, except GPV)			
Gross Payment Volume (GPV) (in millions)	\$13,248	\$9,540	\$3,708	39 %	\$35,989	\$25,450	\$10,540	41 %
Adjusted Revenue	\$177,777	\$117,849	\$59,928	51 %	\$494,741	\$317,622	\$177,119	56 %
Adjusted EBITDA	\$11,623	\$(15,776)	\$27,399	NM	\$15,094	\$(35,046)	\$50,140	NM

Gross Payment Volume (GPV)

We define GPV as the total dollar amount of all card payments processed by sellers using Square, net of refunds. GPV excludes card payments processed for Starbucks. Additionally, GPV excludes non-revenue generating activity related to our Square Cash peer-to-peer payments service.

Adjusted Revenue

Adjusted Revenue is a non-GAAP financial measure that we define as our total net revenue less transaction costs, adjusted to eliminate the effect of activity under our payment processing agreement with Starbucks. As described above, Starbucks has almost completed its previously announced transition to another payment processor, and we believe that providing Adjusted Revenue metrics that exclude the impact of our agreement with Starbucks is useful to investors.

We believe it is useful to exclude transaction costs from Adjusted Revenue as this is a primary metric used by management to measure our business performance, and it affords greater comparability to other payment processing companies. Substantially all of the transaction costs excluded from Adjusted Revenue are interchange fees set by payment card networks and are paid to card issuers, with the remainder of such transaction costs consisting of assessment fees paid to payment card networks, fees paid to third-party payment processors, and bank settlement fees. While some payment processors present their revenue in a similar fashion to us, others present their revenue net of transaction costs because they pass through these costs directly to their sellers. Under our standard pricing model, we do not pass through these costs directly to our sellers.

Adjusted Revenue has limitations as a financial measure, should be considered as supplemental in nature, and is not meant as a substitute for the related financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP. These limitations include the following:

- Adjusted Revenue excludes transaction costs, which is our largest cost of revenue item; and

- other companies, including companies in our industry, may calculate Adjusted Revenue differently from how we calculate this measure or not at all, which reduces its usefulness as a comparative measure.

Because of these limitations, you should consider Adjusted Revenue alongside other financial performance measures, including total net revenue and our financial results presented in accordance with GAAP. The following table presents a reconciliation of total net revenue to Adjusted Revenue for each of the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change
	(in thousands)				(in thousands)			
Total net revenue	\$439,002	\$332,188	\$106,814	32 %	\$1,256,804	\$892,758	\$364,046	41 %
Less: Starbucks transaction revenue	7,164	32,332	(25,168)	(78)%	78,869	95,199	\$(16,330)	(17)%
Less: transaction costs	254,061	182,007	72,054	40 %	683,194	479,937	\$203,257	42 %
Adjusted Revenue	\$177,777	\$117,849	\$59,928	51 %	\$494,741	\$317,622	\$177,119	56 %

Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP financial measure that represents our net loss, adjusted to eliminate the effect of Starbucks transaction revenue, Starbucks transaction costs, and the litigation settlement with Robert E. Morley, before interest income and expense, provision or benefit for income taxes, depreciation, amortization, share-based compensation expense, other income and expense, the gain or loss on the sale of property and equipment, and impairment of intangible assets. We have included Adjusted EBITDA in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q because it is a key measure used by our management to evaluate our operating performance, generate future operating plans, and make strategic decisions, including those relating to operating expenses and the allocation of internal resources. Accordingly, we believe that Adjusted EBITDA provides useful information to investors and others in understanding and evaluating our operating results in the same manner as our management and board of directors. In addition, it provides a useful measure for period-to-period comparisons of our business, as it removes the effect of certain non-cash items and certain variable charges.

We believe it is useful to exclude non-cash charges, such as depreciation and amortization and share-based compensation expenses, from our Adjusted EBITDA because the amount of such expenses in any specific period may not directly correlate to the underlying performance of our business operations. We exclude Starbucks transaction revenue and Starbucks transaction costs because Starbucks is transitioning to another payment processor and will cease using our payment processing services altogether. We believe that providing Adjusted EBITDA metrics that exclude the impact of our agreement with Starbucks is useful to investors. We exclude the litigation settlement with Robert E. Morley, gain or loss on the sale of property and equipment, and impairment of intangible assets from Adjusted EBITDA because we do not believe that these items are reflective of our ongoing business operations. In addition, we believe it is useful to exclude interest income and expense, other income and expense, and provision or benefit from income taxes, as these items are not components of our core business operations.

Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as a financial measure, should be considered as supplemental in nature, and is not meant as a substitute for the related financial information prepared in accordance with GAAP. These limitations include the following:

- share-based compensation expense has been, and will continue to be for the foreseeable future, a significant recurring expense in our business and an important part of our compensation strategy;

- although depreciation and amortization are non-cash charges, the assets being depreciated and amortized may have to be replaced in the future, and Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect cash capital expenditure requirements for such replacements or for new capital expenditures or other capital commitments;

Edgar Filing: Square, Inc. - Form 10-Q

Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect changes in, or cash requirements for, our working capital needs;

Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect the effect of income taxes that may represent a reduction in cash available to us;

Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect the effect of foreign currency exchange gains or losses, which is included in other income and expense; and

29

other companies, including companies in our industry, may calculate Adjusted EBITDA differently from how we calculate this measure or not at all, which reduces its usefulness as a comparative measure.

Because of these limitations, you should consider Adjusted EBITDA alongside other financial performance measures, including net loss and our other financial results presented in accordance with GAAP. The following table presents a reconciliation of net loss to Adjusted EBITDA for each of the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended September 30,				Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change	2016	2015	\$ Change	% Change
	(in thousands)				(in thousands)			
Net loss	\$(32,323)	\$(53,930)	\$21,607	NM	\$(156,423)	\$(131,528)	\$(24,895)	NM
Starbucks transaction revenue	(7,164)	(32,332)	25,168	NM	(78,869)	(95,199)	\$16,330	NM
Starbucks transaction costs	4,528	41,410	(36,882)	(89)%	69,810	118,542	\$(48,732)	(41)%
Share-based compensation expense	36,779	20,793	15,986	77 %	104,899	49,486	\$55,413	112 %
Depreciation and amortization	9,681	6,570	3,111	47 %	27,817	18,526	\$9,291	50 %
Litigation settlement expense	—	—	—	NM	48,000	—	\$48,000	NM
Interest (income) and expense	(183)	137	(320)	(234)%	(243)	995	\$(1,238)	(124)%
Other (income) and expense	294	644	(350)	(54)%	(690)	1,390	\$(2,080)	(150)%
Provision for income taxes	230	932	(702)	(75)%	881	2,502	\$(1,621)	(65)%
Loss (gain) on sale of property and equipment	(219)	—	(219)	NM	(88)	240	\$(328)	(137)%
Adjusted EBITDA	\$11,623	\$(15,776)	\$27,399	NM	\$15,094	\$(35,046)	\$50,140	NM

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The following table summarizes our cash and cash equivalents, investments in marketable securities, and restricted cash (in thousands):

	September 30, 2016	December 31, 2015
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 437,900	\$ 470,775
Short-term investments	\$ 76,427	\$ —
Long-term investments	\$ 15,478	\$ —
Short-term restricted cash	\$ 13,559	\$ 13,537
Long-term restricted cash	\$ 23,137	\$ 14,686

The following table summarizes our cash flow activities (in thousands):

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2016	2015
Net cash provided by operating activities	\$42,235	\$3,130
Net cash used in investing activities	\$(120,420)	\$(35,586)
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	\$42,774	\$(17,791)
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	\$2,536	\$(970)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	\$(32,875)	\$(51,217)

Our principal sources of liquidity are our cash, cash equivalents, and investments in marketable securities. As of September 30, 2016, we had \$529.8 million of cash, cash equivalents, and investments in marketable securities, which were held primarily in cash deposits, money market funds, U.S. government and agency securities, commercial paper, and corporate bonds. We consider all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents. Our investments in marketable securities are classified as available-for-sale. In November 2015, we completed our initial public offering in which we received total net proceeds of \$245.7 million after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions of \$14.7 million and other offering expenses of \$6.9 million. Prior to our initial public offering, our principal source of liquidity was private sales of convertible preferred stock with total cash proceeds to us of \$544.9 million.

In addition, we have a revolving secured credit facility that matures in November 2020. To date, no funds have been drawn under the credit facility, with \$375.0 million remaining available. Loans under the credit facility bear interest at our option of (i) a base rate based on the highest of the prime rate, the federal funds rate plus 0.50%, and an adjusted LIBOR rate for a one-month interest period, in each case plus a margin ranging from 0.00% to 1.00%, or (ii) an adjusted LIBOR rate plus a margin ranging from 1.00% to 2.00%. This margin is determined based on our total leverage ratio for the preceding four fiscal quarters. We are obligated to pay other customary fees for a credit facility of this size and type including an annual administrative agent fee of \$0.1 million and an unused commitment fee of 0.15%. We paid \$0.4 million in unused commitment fees during the nine months ended September 30, 2016.

Historically we funded a majority of our MCAs from arrangements with third parties that commit to purchase the future receivables related to these advances. As of September 30, 2016, we have fully transitioned from offering MCAs to loans. These loans are originated through a partnering bank to be purchased by us and are held for sale to third-party investors.

We believe that our existing cash and cash equivalents, marketable securities and availability under our line of credit will be sufficient to meet our working capital needs and planned capital expenditures for at least the next 12 months. From time to time, we may seek to raise additional capital through equity, equity-linked, and debt financing arrangements. We cannot be assured that any additional financing will be available to us on acceptable terms or at all.

Short-term restricted cash of \$13.6 million as of September 30, 2016 reflects pledged cash deposited into savings accounts at the financial institutions that process our sellers' payments transactions. We use the restricted cash to secure letters of credit with these financial institutions to provide collateral for liabilities arising from cash flow timing differences in the processing of these payments. We have recorded this amount as a current asset on our condensed consolidated balance sheets given the short-term nature of these cash flow timing differences and that there is no minimum time frame during which the cash must remain restricted.

Long-term restricted cash of \$23.1 million as of September 30, 2016 reflects cash deposited into money market accounts that is used as collateral pursuant to multi-year lease agreements entered into in 2012 and 2014 for our office buildings and as collateral pursuant to an agreement with the originating bank for the Company's loan product. The Company has recorded this amount as a non-current asset on the condensed consolidated balance sheets as the terms extend beyond one year.

We experience significant day-to-day fluctuations in our cash and cash equivalents, settlements receivable and customers payable, and hence working capital. These fluctuations are primarily due to:

Timing of period end. For periods that end on a weekend or a bank holiday, our cash and cash equivalents, settlements receivable, and customers payable amounts typically will be more than for periods ending on a weekday, as we settle to our sellers for payment processing activity on business days; and

Fluctuations in daily GPV. When daily GPV increases, our cash and cash equivalents, settlements receivable, and customer payable amounts increase. Typically our cash, cash equivalents, settlements receivable, and customer

payable balances at period end represent one to four days of receivables and disbursements to be made in the subsequent period. Customer payable and settlements receivable balances typically move in tandem, as pay-out and pay-in largely occur on the same business day. However, customer payable balances will be greater in amount than settlements receivable balances due to the fact that a subset of funds are held due to unlinked bank accounts, risk holds, and chargebacks. Holidays and day-of-week may also cause significant volatility in daily GPV amounts.

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Cash used in operating activities consisted of net loss adjusted for certain non-cash items including depreciation and amortization, share-based compensation expense, provision for transaction losses, provision for uncollectible merchant cash advances, deferred income taxes, and gain (loss) on disposal of property and equipment, as well as the effect of changes in operating assets and liabilities, including working capital.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, cash provided by operating activities was \$42.2 million, as a result of a net loss of \$156.4 million, offset by non-cash items consisting primarily of share-based compensation of \$104.9 million, provision for transaction losses of \$36.9 million, and depreciation and amortization of \$27.8 million.

Additional uses of cash were from changes in operating assets and liabilities, including increases in settlements receivable of \$91.4 million, purchase of loans held for sale of \$421.2 million and charge-offs and recoveries to accrued transaction losses of \$32.6 million. This activity was offset in part by proceeds from sales and principal repayments of loans held for sale of \$393.2 million, decreases in merchant cash advance receivable of \$27.7 million, and increases in customers payable of \$139.1 million and other current liabilities of \$15.3 million.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2015, cash provided by operating activities was \$3.1 million, as a result of a net loss of \$131.5 million, offset in part by non-cash items consisting primarily of share-based compensation expense of \$49.5 million, provision for transaction losses of \$33.0 million, and depreciation and amortization of \$18.5 million. Additional uses of cash were from changes in our operating assets and liabilities, including an increase in settlements receivable of \$40.7 million, merchant cash advance receivable of \$18.7 million and charge-offs and recoveries to accrued transactions of \$25.4 million, offset by increases in customers payable of \$89.4 million, accrued expenses of \$14.0 million and other noncurrent liabilities of \$8.8 million.

Cash Flows from Investing Activities

Cash flows used in investing activities primarily relate to capital expenditures to support our growth, investments in marketable securities, changes in restricted cash, and business acquisitions.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, cash used in investing activities was \$120.4 million, as a result of the purchase of marketable securities of \$139.1 million, offset in part by proceeds from maturities and sales of marketable securities of \$47.2 million. Additional uses of cash were as a result of the purchase of property and equipment of \$19.7 million and an increase in restricted cash of \$8.5 million.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2015, cash used in investing activities was \$35.6 million as a result of the purchase of property and equipment of \$30.7 million and business acquisitions of \$4.5 million.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

For the nine months ended September 30, 2016, cash provided by financing activities was \$42.8 million as a result of proceeds from issuances of common stock from the exercise of options and employee stock purchase plan of \$48.3 million, offset by payments in offering costs related to our initial public offering of \$5.5 million.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2015, cash used by financing activities was \$17.8 million as a result of principal payments on debt of \$30.0 million, offset by proceeds from the exercise of stock options of \$12.2 million.

Contractual Obligations and Commitments

There were no material changes in our commitments under contractual obligations, except for scheduled payments from the ongoing business, as disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not have any off-balance sheet arrangements during the periods presented.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Our critical accounting policies are disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2015.

Our critical accounting policies have not materially changed during the nine months ended September 30, 2016. Our discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with GAAP. GAAP requires us to make certain estimates and judgments that affect the amounts reported in our financial statements. We base our estimates on historical experience, anticipated future trends, and other assumptions we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Because these accounting policies require significant judgment, our actual results may differ materially from our estimates.

We believe the assumptions and estimates associated with revenue recognition, accrued transaction losses, provision for uncollectible receivables related to MCAs, valuation of loans held for sale, business combinations, goodwill and intangible assets, income taxes, and share-based compensation to have the greatest potential effect on our consolidated financial statements. Therefore, we consider these to be our critical accounting policies and estimates.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

See “Recently Issued Accounting Standards” described in Note 1 of the Notes to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

We have operations both within the United States and globally, and we are exposed to market risks in the ordinary course of our business, including the effects of interest rate changes and foreign currency fluctuations. Information relating to quantitative and qualitative disclosures about these market risks is described below.

Interest Rate Sensitivity

Our cash and cash equivalents, and marketable securities as of September 30, 2016, were held primarily in cash deposits, money market funds, U.S. government and agency securities, commercial paper, and corporate bonds. The fair value of our cash, cash equivalents, and marketable securities would not be significantly affected by either an increase or decrease in interest rates due mainly to the short-term nature of a majority of these instruments. Additionally, we have the ability and the intent to hold these instruments until maturity, which further reduces our risk. Any future borrowings incurred under our credit facility would accrue interest at a floating rate based on a formula tied to certain market rates at the time of incurrence (as described above). A hypothetical 100 basis point increase or decrease in interest rates would not have a material effect on our financial results.

Foreign Currency Risk

Most of our revenue is earned in U.S. dollars, and therefore our revenue is not currently subject to significant foreign currency risk. Our foreign operations are denominated in the currencies of the countries in which our operations are located, and may be subject to fluctuations due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates, particularly changes in the Japanese Yen, Canadian Dollar, and Australian Dollar. Fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates may cause us to recognize transaction gains and losses in our statement of operations. A 10% increase or decrease in current exchange rates would not have a material impact on our financial results.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

As of the end of the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, our management, with the participation of the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, performed an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act). Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief

33

Financial Officer concluded that, as of September 30, 2016, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to provide reasonable assurance that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act were recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, and that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file under the Exchange Act (according to Rule 13(a)-15(e)) is accumulated and communicated to our management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There was no change in our internal control over financial reporting identified in connection with the evaluation required by Rules 13a-15(d) and 15d-15(d) of the Exchange Act that occurred during the period covered by this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Part II—Other Information

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We are currently a party to, and may in the future be involved in, various litigation matters (including intellectual property litigation), legal claims, and government investigations.

We are involved in a class action lawsuit concerning independent contractors in connection with our Caviar business. On March 19, 2015, Jeffry Levin, on behalf of a putative nationwide class, filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California against our wholly owned subsidiary, Caviar, Inc., which, as amended, alleges that Caviar misclassified Mr. Levin and other similarly situated couriers as independent contractors and, in doing so, violated various provisions of the California Labor Code and California Business and Professions Code by requiring them to pay various business expenses that should have been borne by Caviar. The Court compelled arbitration of Mr. Levin's individual claims on November 16, 2015 and dismissed the lawsuit in its entirety with prejudice on May 2, 2016. On June 1, 2016, Mr. Levin filed a Notice of Appeal of the Court's order compelling arbitration with the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. Mr. Levin filed his opening appellate brief regarding the order compelling arbitration of his individual claims on October 7, 2016. Our answering brief is due November 7, 2016. Mr. Levin also sought an award of penalties pursuant to the Labor Code Private Attorneys General Act of 2004 (PAGA). The parties stipulated that Mr. Levin would no longer pursue this PAGA claim, but this claim may instead be pursued by a different courier.

In addition, from time to time, we are involved in various other litigation matters and disputes arising in the ordinary course of business. While it is not feasible to predict or determine the ultimate outcome of these matters, we believe that none of our current legal proceedings will have a material adverse effect on our business.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below, together with all of the other information in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, including the section titled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and related notes, before making any investment decision with respect to our securities. The risks and uncertainties described below may not be the only ones we face. If any of the risks actually occur, our business could be materially and adversely affected. In that event, the market price of our Class A common stock could decline, and you could lose part or all of your investment.

The following description of risk factors includes any material changes to, and supersedes the description of, risk factors associated with the Company's business previously disclosed in Part I, Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2015 under the heading "Risk Factors."

Risks Related to Our Business and Our Industry

Our business depends on a strong and trusted brand, and any failure to maintain, protect, and enhance our brand would hurt our business.

We have developed a strong and trusted brand that has contributed significantly to the success of our business. Our brand is predicated on the idea that sellers and buyers will trust us and find value in building and growing their businesses with our products and services. Maintaining, protecting, and enhancing our brand is critical to expanding our base of sellers, buyers, and other third-party partners, as well as increasing engagement with our products and services. This will depend largely on our ability to maintain trust, be a technology leader, and continue to provide high-quality and secure products and services. Any negative publicity about our industry or our company, the quality

and reliability of our products and services, our risk management processes, changes to our products and services, our ability to effectively manage and resolve seller and buyer complaints, our privacy and security practices, litigation, regulatory activity, and the experience of sellers and buyers with our products or services, could adversely affect our reputation and the confidence in and use of our products and services. Harm to our brand can arise from many sources, including failure by us or our partners to satisfy expectations of service and quality; inadequate protection of sensitive information; compliance failures and claims; litigation and other claims; employee misconduct; and misconduct by

our partners, service providers, or other counterparties. If we do not successfully maintain a strong and trusted brand, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

Our growth may not be sustainable and depends on our ability to retain existing sellers, attract new sellers, and increase sales to both new and existing sellers.

Our total net revenue grew from \$552.4 million in 2013 to \$850.2 million in 2014 and to \$1,267.1 million in 2015. During the nine months ended September 30, 2015 and 2016, our total net revenue grew from \$892.8 million to \$1,256.8 million, respectively. We expect our rate of revenue growth will decline, and it may decline more quickly than we expect for a variety of reasons, including the risks described in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Starbucks is in the process of transitioning to another payment processor and has announced that it will cease using our payment processing services altogether. As a result, our total net revenue may decrease going forward. Our sellers and other users of our services have no obligation to continue to use our services, and we cannot assure you that they will. We generally do not have long-term contracts with our sellers, and the difficulty and costs associated with switching to a competitor may not be significant for many of our services. Our sellers' payment processing activity with us may decrease for a variety of reasons, including sellers' level of satisfaction with our products and services, the effectiveness of our support services, our pricing, the pricing and quality of competing products or services, the effects of global economic conditions, or reductions in our sellers' customer spending levels. In addition, the growth of our business depends in part on existing sellers expanding their use of our products and services. If we are unable to encourage sellers to broaden their use of our services, our growth may slow or stop, and our business may be materially and adversely affected. The growth of our business also depends on our ability to attract new sellers, to encourage larger sellers to use our products and services, and to introduce successful new products and services. We have invested in new products and services, including Square Cash, Caviar, Instant Deposit, and Invoices and will continue to invest in new products and services, but if those products and services fail to be successful, our growth may slow or decline.

Our business has generated net losses, and we intend to continue to invest substantially in our business. Thus, we may not be able to achieve or maintain profitability.

We generated net losses of \$179.8 million, \$154.1 million, and \$104.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2015, 2014, and 2013, respectively. During the nine months ended September 30, 2016 and 2015, we generated net losses of \$156.4 million and \$131.5 million, respectively.

As of September 30, 2016, we had an accumulated deficit of \$764.1 million. We intend to continue to make significant investments in our business, including with respect to our employee base; sales and marketing, including expenses relating to increased direct marketing efforts, referral programs, and free hardware and subsidized services; development of new products, services, and features; expansion of office space and other infrastructure; expansion of international operations; and general administration, including legal, finance, and other compliance expenses related to being a public company. If the costs associated with acquiring and supporting new or larger sellers materially rise in the future, including the fees we pay to third parties to advertise our products and services, our expenses may rise significantly. In addition, increases in our seller base could cause us to incur increased losses because costs associated with new sellers are generally incurred up front, while revenue is recognized thereafter as sellers utilize our services. If we are unable to generate adequate revenue growth and manage our expenses, we may continue to incur significant losses and may not achieve or maintain profitability.

We frequently make decisions that may reduce our short-term operating results if we believe those decisions will improve the experiences of our sellers, their customers, and other users of our products and services, which we believe will improve our operating results over the long term. These decisions may not be consistent with the expectations of investors and may not produce the long-term benefits that we expect, in which case our business may be materially and adversely affected.

We, our sellers, our partners, and others who use our services obtain and process a large amount of sensitive data. Any real or perceived improper use of, disclosure of, or access to such data could harm our reputation as a trusted brand, as well as have a material and adverse effect on our business.

We, our sellers, and our partners, including third-party data centers that we use, obtain and process large amounts of sensitive data, including data related to our sellers, their customers, and their transactions. This is also true of other users of our services, such as Square Cash and Square Payroll. We face risks, including to our reputation as a trusted brand, in the handling and protection of this data, and these risks will increase as our business continues to expand. Our operations involve the storage and transmission of sensitive information of individuals using our services, including their names, addresses, social security numbers, payment card numbers and expiration dates, bank account information, and data regarding the performance of our sellers' businesses. We also obtain sensitive information regarding our sellers' customers, including their contact information, payment card numbers and expiration dates, and purchase histories. We have administrative, technical, and physical security

measures in place, and we have policies and procedures in place to contractually require third parties to whom we transfer data to implement and maintain appropriate security measures. However, if our security measures or those of the previously mentioned third parties are inadequate or are breached as a result of third-party action, employee error, malfeasance, malware, phishing, hacking attacks, system error, trickery, or otherwise, and, as a result, someone obtains unauthorized access to sensitive information, including personally identifiable information, on our systems or our partners' systems, our reputation and business could be damaged. If the sensitive information is lost or improperly disclosed or threatened to be disclosed, we could incur significant liability and be subject to regulatory scrutiny and penalties, including costs associated with remediation. Under payment card rules and our contracts with our card processors, if there is a breach of payment card information that we store or that is stored by our sellers or other third parties with which we do business, we could be liable to the payment card issuing banks for their cost of issuing new cards and other related expenses. Additionally, if our own confidential business information were improperly disclosed, our business could be materially and adversely affected. A core aspect of our business is the reliability and security of our payments platform. Any perceived or actual breach of security could have a significant impact on our reputation as a trusted brand, cause us to lose existing sellers, prevent us from obtaining new sellers, require us to expend significant funds to remedy problems caused by breaches and to implement measures to prevent further breaches, and expose us to legal risk and potential liability. Any security breach at a company providing services to us, our sellers, or other users of our services could have similar effects.

Our risk management efforts may not be effective, which could expose us to losses and liability and otherwise harm our business.

We offer payments services and other products and services to a large number of customers, and we are responsible for vetting and monitoring these customers and determining whether the transactions we process for them are legitimate. When our products and services are used to process illegitimate transactions, and we settle those funds to sellers and are unable to recover them, we suffer losses and liability. These types of illegitimate transactions can also expose us to governmental and regulatory sanctions. The highly automated nature of, and liquidity offered by, our payments services make us a target for illegal or improper uses, including fraudulent or illegal sales of goods or services, money laundering, and terrorist financing. Identity thieves and those committing fraud using stolen or fabricated credit card or bank account numbers, or other deceptive or malicious practices, potentially can steal significant amounts of money from businesses like ours. In configuring our payments services, we face an inherent trade-off between security and customer convenience. Our risk management policies, procedures, techniques, and processes may not be sufficient to identify all of the risks to which we are exposed, to enable us to mitigate the risks we have identified, or to identify additional risks to which we may become subject in the future. As a greater number of larger sellers use our services, our exposure to material risk losses from a single seller, or from a small number of sellers, will increase. For example, in the year ended December 31, 2015, we recorded a loss of approximately \$4.4 million related to fraud by a single seller using our payments services. Our current business and anticipated domestic and international growth will continue to place significant demands on our risk management efforts, and we will need to continue developing and improving our existing risk management infrastructure, techniques, and processes. In addition, when we introduce new services, focus on new business types, or begin to operate in markets where we have a limited history of fraud loss, we may be less able to forecast and reserve accurately for those losses. Furthermore, if our risk management policies and processes contain errors or are otherwise ineffective, we may suffer large financial losses, we may be subject to civil and criminal liability, and our business may be materially and adversely affected.

We are currently, and will continue to be, exposed to risks associated with chargebacks and refunds in connection with payment card fraud or relating to the goods or services provided by our sellers. In the event that a billing dispute between a cardholder and a seller is not resolved in favor of the seller, including in situations where the seller engaged in fraud, the transaction is typically "charged back" to the seller and the purchase price is credited or otherwise refunded to the cardholder. If we are unable to collect chargebacks or refunds from the seller's account, or if the seller refuses to or is unable to reimburse us for chargebacks or refunds due to closure, bankruptcy, or other reasons, we may bear the loss for the amounts paid to the cardholder. Since October 2015, businesses that cannot process EMV chip cards are

held financially responsible for certain fraudulent transactions conducted using chip-enabled cards. This has shifted an increased amount of the risk for certain fraudulent transactions from the issuing banks to these sellers, which has resulted in our having to seek an increased level of reimbursement for chargebacks from our sellers that do not deploy EMV-compliant card readers. Not all of the readers we offer to merchants are EMV-compliant. Our financial results would be adversely affected to the extent sellers do not fully reimburse us for the related chargebacks. We do not collect and maintain reserves from our sellers to cover these potential losses, and for customer relations purposes we sometimes decline to seek reimbursement for certain chargebacks. The risk of chargebacks is typically greater with those of our sellers that promise future delivery of goods and services, which we allow on our service. If we are unable to maintain our losses from chargebacks at acceptable levels, the payment card networks could fine us, increase our transaction fees, or terminate our ability to process payment cards. Any increase in our transaction fees could damage our business, and if we were unable to accept payment cards, our business would be materially and adversely affected.

We derive substantially all of our revenue from payments services. Our efforts to expand our product portfolio and market reach may not succeed and may reduce our revenue growth.

We derive substantially all of our revenue from transaction fees we collect in connection with payments services. While we intend to continue to broaden the scope of products and services we offer, we may not be successful in deriving any significant revenue from these products and services. Failure to broaden the scope of products and services that are attractive may inhibit the growth of repeat business and harm our business, as well as increase the vulnerability of our core payments business to competitors offering a full suite of products and services. Furthermore, we may have limited or no experience in our newer markets. For example, we cannot assure you that any financial services and marketing services will be widely used. These offerings may present new and difficult technological, operational, and other challenges, and if we experience service disruptions, failures, or other issues, our business may be materially and adversely affected. Our newer activities may not recoup our investments in a timely manner or at all. If any of this were to occur, it could damage our reputation, limit our growth, and materially and adversely affect our business.

Our success depends on our ability to develop products and services to address the rapidly evolving market for payments and POS, financial, and marketing services, and, if we are not able to implement successful enhancements and new features for our products and services, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

We expect that new services and technologies applicable to the industries in which we operate will continue to emerge and evolve. Rapid and significant technological changes continue to confront the industries in which we operate, including developments in ecommerce, mobile commerce, and proximity payment devices (including contactless payments via NFC technology). Other potential changes are on the horizon as well, such as developments in crypto-currencies and in tokenization, which replaces sensitive data (e.g., payment card information) with symbols (tokens) to keep the data safe in the event that it ends up in the wrong hands. Similarly, there is rapid innovation in the provision of other products and services to businesses, including in financial services and marketing services.

These new services and technologies may be superior to, impair, or render obsolete the products and services we currently offer or the technologies we currently use to provide them. Incorporating new technologies into our products and services may require substantial expenditures and take considerable time, and we may not be successful in realizing a return on these development efforts in a timely manner or at all. There can be no assurance that any new products or services we develop and offer to our sellers will achieve significant commercial acceptance. For example, in 2011, we introduced Square Wallet, a mobile payment app, and discontinued it in May 2014. Our ability to develop new products and services may be inhibited by industry-wide standards, payment card networks, laws and regulations, resistance to change from buyers or sellers, or third parties' intellectual property rights. Our success will depend on our ability to develop new technologies and to adapt to technological changes and evolving industry standards. If we are unable to provide enhancements and new features for our products and services or to develop new products and services that achieve market acceptance or that keep pace with rapid technological developments and evolving industry standards, our business would be materially and adversely affected.

The success of enhancements, new features, and products and services depends on several factors, including the timely completion, introduction, and market acceptance of the enhancements or new features or services. We often rely not only on our own initiatives and innovations, but also on third parties, including some of our competitors, for the development of and access to new technologies. Failure to accurately predict or to respond effectively to developments in our industry may significantly impair our business.

In addition, because our products and services are designed to operate with a variety of systems, infrastructures, and devices, we need to continuously modify and enhance our products and services to keep pace with changes in mobile, software, communication, and database technologies. We may not be successful in either developing these modifications and enhancements or in bringing them to market in a timely and cost-effective manner. Any failure of

our products and services to continue to operate effectively with third-party infrastructures and technologies could reduce the demand for our products and services, result in dissatisfaction of our sellers or their customers, and materially and adversely affect our business.

Substantial and increasingly intense competition in our industry may harm our business.

We compete in markets characterized by vigorous competition, changing technology, changing seller and buyer needs, evolving industry standards, and frequent introductions of new products and services. We expect competition to intensify in the future as existing and new competitors introduce new services or enhance existing services. We compete against many companies to attract customers, and some of these companies have greater financial resources and substantially larger bases of customers than we do, which may provide them with significant competitive advantages. These companies may devote greater resources to the development, promotion, and sale of products and services, and they may offer lower prices or more effectively introduce

their own innovative products and services that adversely impact our growth. Mergers and acquisitions by these companies may lead to even larger competitors with more resources. We also expect new entrants to offer competitive products and services. Certain sellers have long-standing exclusive, or nearly exclusive, relationships with our competitors to accept payment cards and other services that we offer. These relationships may make it difficult or cost-prohibitive for us to conduct material amounts of business with them. Competing services tied to established brands may engender greater confidence in the safety and efficacy of their services. If we are unable to differentiate ourselves from and successfully compete with our competitors, our business will be materially and adversely affected.

We may also face pricing pressures from competitors. Some potential competitors are able to offer lower prices to sellers for similar services by cross-subsidizing their payments services through other services they offer. Such competition may result in the need for us to alter the pricing we offer to our sellers and could reduce our gross profit. In addition, as we grow, sellers may demand more customized and favorable pricing from us, and competitive pressures may require us to agree to such pricing, further reducing our gross profit. We currently negotiate pricing discounts and other incentive arrangements with certain large sellers to increase acceptance and usage of our products and services. If we continue this practice and if an increasing proportion of our sellers are large sellers, we may have to increase the discounts or incentives we provide, which could also reduce our gross profit.

We are dependent on payment card networks and acquiring processors, and any changes to their rules or practices could harm our business.

Our business depends on our ability to accept credit and debit cards, which ability is provided by the payment card networks, including Visa, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover. Other than American Express, we do not directly access the payment card networks that enable our acceptance of payment cards. As a result, we must rely on banks and acquiring processors to process transactions on our behalf. Our acquiring processor agreements have terms ranging from two to six years. Our three largest such agreements expire between the third quarter of 2017 and the first quarter of 2020, and two of these agreements provide for automatic renewal. These banks and acquiring processors may fail or refuse to process transactions adequately, may breach their agreements with us, or may refuse to renew these agreements on commercially reasonable terms. They might also take actions that degrade the functionality of our services, impose additional costs or requirements on us, or give preferential treatment to competitive services, including their own services. If we are unsuccessful in establishing or maintaining mutually beneficial relationships with these payment card networks, banks, and acquiring processors, our business may be harmed.

The payment card networks and our acquiring processors require us to comply with payment card network operating rules, including special operating rules that apply to us as a “payment service provider” providing payment processing services to merchants. The payment card networks set these network rules and have discretion to interpret them and change them. Any changes to or interpretations of the network rules that are inconsistent with the way we or our acquiring processors currently operate may require us to make changes to our business that could be costly or difficult to implement. If we fail to make such changes or otherwise resolve the issue with the payment card networks, the networks could fine us or prohibit us from processing payment cards. In addition, violations of the network rules or any failure to maintain good relationships with the payment card networks could impact our ability to receive incentives from them, could increase our costs, or could otherwise harm our business. If we were unable to accept payment cards or were limited in our ability to do so, our business would be materially and adversely affected.

We are required to pay interchange fees and assessments to the payment card networks, as well as fees to our acquiring processors, to process transactions. From time to time, payment card networks have increased, and may increase in the future, the interchange fees and assessments that they charge for each transaction processed using their networks. In addition, our acquiring processors and payment card networks may refuse to renew our agreements with them on commercially reasonable terms. Interchange fees or assessments are also subject to change from time to time due to government regulation. Because we generally charge our sellers a flat rate for our payments services, rather than passing through interchange fees and assessments to our sellers directly, any increase or decrease in interchange

fees or assessments or in the fees we pay to our acquiring processors could make our pricing look less competitive, lead us to change our pricing model, or adversely affect our margins.

We could be, and in the past have been, subject to penalties from payment card networks if we fail to detect that sellers are engaging in activities that are illegal, contrary to the payment card network operating rules, or considered “high risk.” We must either prevent high-risk sellers from using our products and services or register such sellers with the payment card networks and conduct additional monitoring with respect to such sellers. Although the amount of these penalties has not been material to date, any additional penalties in the future could become material and could result in termination of our ability to accept payment cards or could require changes in our process for registering new sellers. This could materially and adversely affect our business.

Our quarterly results of operations and operating metrics fluctuate significantly and are unpredictable and subject to seasonality, which could result in the trading price of our Class A common stock being unpredictable or declining.

Our quarterly results of operations may vary significantly and are not necessarily an indication of future performance. These fluctuations may be due to a variety of factors, some of which are outside of our control and may not fully reflect the underlying performance of our business. Our limited operating history combined with the rapidly evolving markets in which we operate also contributes to these fluctuations. Fluctuations in quarterly results may materially and adversely affect the predictability of our business and the price of our Class A common stock.

Factors that may cause fluctuations in our quarterly financial results include our ability to attract and retain new customers; the timing, effectiveness, and costs of expansion and upgrades of our systems and infrastructure, as well as the success of those expansions and upgrades; the outcomes of legal proceedings and claims; our ability to maintain or increase revenue, gross margins, and operating margins; our ability to continue introducing new services and to continue convincing customers to adopt additional offerings; increases in and timing of expenses that we may incur to grow and expand our operations and to remain competitive; period-to-period volatility related to fraud and risk losses; system failures resulting in the inaccessibility of our products and services; changes in the regulatory environment, including with respect to security, privacy, or enforcement of laws and regulations by regulators, including fines, orders, or consent decrees; changes in global business or macroeconomic conditions; unusual weather conditions; general retail buying patterns; and the other risks described in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q.

We depend on key management, as well as our experienced and capable employees, and any failure to attract, motivate, and retain our employees could harm our ability to maintain and grow our business.

Our future success is significantly dependent upon the continued service of our executives and other key employees. If we lose the services of any member of management or any key personnel, we may not be able to locate a suitable or qualified replacement, and we may incur additional expenses to recruit and train a replacement, which could severely disrupt our business and growth. Jack Dorsey, our co-founder, President, and Chief Executive Officer, also serves as Chief Executive Officer of Twitter, Inc. This may at times adversely affect his ability to devote time, attention, and effort to Square.

To maintain and grow our business, we will need to identify, hire, develop, motivate, and retain highly skilled employees. Identifying, recruiting, training, integrating, and retaining qualified individuals requires significant time, expense, and attention. In addition, from time to time, there may be changes in our management team that may be disruptive to our business. If our management team, including any new hires that we make, fails to work together effectively and to execute our plans and strategies on a timely basis, our business could be harmed. Competition for highly skilled personnel is intense, particularly in the San Francisco Bay Area where our headquarters are located. We may need to invest significant amounts of cash and equity to attract and retain new employees, and we may never realize returns on these investments. If we are not able to add and retain employees effectively, our ability to achieve our strategic objectives will be adversely affected, and our business and growth prospects will be harmed.

In addition, a number of employees, including many members of management, may be able to receive significant proceeds from sales of our equity in the public markets. As a result, it may be difficult for us to continue to retain and motivate these employees, and, if we are unable to do so, our business may be materially and adversely affected.

If we fail to manage growth effectively, our business could be harmed.

In order to manage our growth effectively, we must continue to strengthen our existing infrastructure, develop and improve our internal controls, create and improve our reporting systems, and timely address issues as they arise. These efforts may require substantial financial expenditures, commitments of resources, developments of our processes, and other investments and innovations. Furthermore, we encourage employees to be bold and to quickly develop and

launch new features for our products and services. As we grow, we may not be able to execute as quickly as a smaller, more efficient organization. If we do not successfully manage our growth, our business will suffer.

A deterioration of general macroeconomic conditions could materially and adversely affect our business and financial results.

Our performance is subject to economic conditions and their impact on levels of spending by businesses and their customers. Most of the sellers that use our services are small businesses, many of which are in the early stages of their development, and these businesses may be disproportionately adversely affected by economic downturns and may fail at a higher rate than larger or more established businesses. If spending by their customers declines, these businesses would experience reduced sales and process fewer payments with us or, if they cease to operate, stop using our products and services altogether. Small businesses frequently have limited budgets and limited access to capital, and they may choose to allocate their spending to items other than

our financial or marketing services, especially in times of economic uncertainty or in recessions. In addition, if more of our sellers cease to operate, this may have an adverse impact not only on the growth of our payments services but also on our transaction and advance loss rates, and the success of our other services. For example, if businesses processing payments with us receive chargebacks after they cease to operate, we may incur additional losses. Additionally, the growth in the number of sellers qualifying for Square Capital may slow or the receivables related to the Square Capital MCAs or business loans may be paid more slowly, or not at all. Furthermore, our investment portfolio, which includes U.S. government and corporate securities, is subject to general credit, liquidity, market, and interest rate risks, which may be exacerbated by certain events that affect the global financial markets. If global credit and equity markets decline for extended periods, or if there is a downgrade of the securities within our portfolio, the investment portfolio may be adversely affected and we could determine that our investments have experienced an other-than-temporary decline in fair value, requiring impairment charges that could adversely affect our financial results. Thus, if general macroeconomic conditions deteriorate, our business and financial results could be materially and adversely affected.

If we are unable to maintain, promote, and grow our brand through effective marketing and communications strategies, our brand and business may be harmed.

We believe that maintaining and promoting our brand in a cost-effective manner is critical to achieving widespread acceptance of our products and services and to expanding our base of customers. Maintaining and promoting our brand will depend largely on our ability to continue to provide useful, reliable, and innovative products and services, which we may not do successfully. We may introduce, or make changes to, features, products, services, or terms of service that customers do not like, which may materially and adversely affect our brand. Our brand promotion activities may not generate customer awareness or increase revenue, and even if they do, any increase in revenue may not offset the expenses we incur in building our brand. If we fail to successfully promote and maintain our brand or if we incur excessive expenses in this effort, our business could be materially and adversely affected.

The introduction and promotion of new services, as well as the promotion of existing services, may be partly dependent on our visibility on third-party advertising platforms, such as Google, Twitter, or Facebook. Changes in the way these platforms operate or changes in their advertising prices or other terms could make the maintenance and promotion of our products and services and our brand more expensive or more difficult. If we are unable to market and promote our brand on third-party platforms effectively, our ability to acquire new sellers would be materially harmed.

We have received a significant amount of media coverage since our formation. We have also been from time to time in the past, and may in the future be, the target of incomplete, inaccurate, and misleading or false statements about our company, our business, and our products and services that could damage our brand and materially deter people from adopting our services. Negative publicity about our company or our management, including about our product quality and reliability, changes to our products and services, privacy and security practices, litigation, regulatory enforcement, and other actions, as well as the actions of our customers and other users of our services, even if inaccurate, could cause a loss of confidence in us. Our ability to respond to negative statements about us may be limited by legal prohibitions on permissible public communications by us during future periods.

Expanding our business globally could subject us to new challenges and risks.

We currently offer our services and products in multiple countries and plan to continue expanding our business further globally. Additional expansion, whether in our existing or new global markets, will require additional resources and controls, and offering our services in new geographic regions often requires substantial expenditures and takes considerable time, and we may not be successful enough in these new geographies to recoup our investments in a timely manner or at all. Such expansion could also subject our business to substantial risks, including:

- difficulty in attracting a sufficient number of sellers;

failure to anticipate competitive conditions;
conformity with applicable business customs, including translation into foreign languages and associated expenses;
increased costs and difficulty in protecting intellectual property and sensitive data;
changes to the way we do business as compared with our current operations or a lack of acceptance of our products and services;
the ability to support and integrate with local third-party service providers;

competition with service providers that have greater experience in the local markets than we do;
difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations in an environment of diverse culture, laws and customs, challenges caused by distance, language, and cultural differences, and the increased travel, infrastructure and legal and compliance costs associated with global operations;
compliance with multiple, potentially conflicting and changing governmental laws and regulations, including with respect to data privacy and security;
compliance with U.S. and foreign anti-bribery laws;
potential tariffs, sanctions, or other trade barriers including fines;
exchange rate risk;
compliance with potentially conflicting and changing laws of taxing jurisdictions where we conduct business and applicable U.S. tax laws, the complexity and adverse consequences of such tax laws and potentially adverse tax consequences due to changes in such tax laws; and
regional economic and political instability.

As a result of these risks, our efforts to expand our global operations may not be successful, which could limit our ability to grow our business.

We rely on third parties and their systems for a variety of services, including the processing of transaction data and settlement of funds to us and our sellers, and these third parties' failure to perform these services adequately could materially and adversely affect our business.

To provide our payments solution and other products and services, we rely on third parties that we do not control, such as the payment card networks, our acquiring processors, the payment card issuers, various financial institution partners, systems like the Federal Reserve Automated Clearing House, and other partners. We rely on these third parties for a variety of services, including the transmission of transaction data, processing of chargebacks and refunds, settlement of funds to our sellers, and the provision information and other elements of our services. For example, we currently rely on three acquiring processors in the United States and two for each of Canada, Japan and Australia. While we believe there are other acquiring processors that could meet our needs, adding or transitioning to new providers may disrupt our business and increase our costs. In the event these third parties fail to provide these services adequately, including as a result of errors in their systems or events beyond their control, or refuse to provide these services on terms acceptable to us or at all, and we are not able to find suitable alternatives, our business may be materially and adversely affected.

Our services must integrate with a variety of operating systems, and the hardware that enables merchants to accept payment cards must interoperate with third-party mobile devices utilizing those operating systems. If we are unable to ensure that our services or hardware interoperate with such operating systems and devices, our business may be materially and adversely affected.

We are dependent on the ability of our products and services to integrate with a variety of operating systems, as well as web browsers that we do not control. Any changes in these systems that degrade the functionality of our products and services, impose additional costs or requirements on us, or give preferential treatment to competitive services, including their own services, could materially and adversely affect usage of our products and services. In addition, we rely on app marketplaces, such as the Apple App Store and Google Play, to drive downloads of our mobile app. Apple, Google, or other operators of app marketplaces regularly make changes to their marketplaces, and those changes may make access to our products and services more difficult. In the event that it is difficult for our sellers to access and use our products and services, our business may be materially and adversely affected.

In addition, our hardware interoperates with mobile devices developed by third parties. For example, the current version of Square Reader for magnetic stripe cards plugs into the audio jack of most smartphones and tablets. In September 2016, Apple introduced the new iPhone 7, which does not have an audio jack, and instead Apple will

provide an adapter that can be inserted into a connectivity port. This adapter may fail to interoperate with our Square Reader, or existing users may decide not to use the adapter. This change and other potential changes in the design of future mobile devices may limit the interoperability of our hardware with such devices and require modifications to our hardware. If we are unable to ensure that our hardware continues

to interoperate effectively with such devices, if doing so is costly, or if existing merchants decide not to utilize additional parts necessary for interoperability, our business may be materially and adversely affected.

Many of our key components are procured from a single or limited number of suppliers. Thus, we are at risk of shortage, price increases, changes, delay, or discontinuation of key components, which could disrupt and materially and adversely affect our business.

Many of the key components used to manufacture our products, such as the custom parts of Square Reader for magnetic stripe cards, including its magnetic stripe-reading element, its plastic cover, and its application-specific integrated circuits, come from limited or single sources of supply, as do the plastic cover, connector, and security cage of Square Reader for EMV chip cards and NFC. In addition, in some cases, we rely only on one manufacturer to fabricate, test, and assemble our products. For example, a single manufacturer assembles Square Reader for magnetic stripe cards and Square Reader for EMV chip cards and NFC, as well as manufactures those products' plastic parts with custom tools that we own but that they maintain on their premises. The term of the agreement with that manufacturer initially expired on June 26, 2014, but automatically renewed and will continue to renew for consecutive one-year periods unless either party provides notice of non-renewal. In general, our contract manufacturers fabricate or procure components on our behalf, subject to certain approved procedures or supplier lists, and we do not have firm commitments from all of these manufacturers to provide all components, or to provide them in quantities and on timelines that we may require. For example, pursuant to a development and supply agreement, a component supplier provides design, development, customization, and related services for components of the magnetic stripe-reading element in some of our products. The term of the agreement initially expired on September 30, 2016 but automatically renewed and will continue to renew for successive two-year terms unless either party provides notice of non-renewal. Similarly, a component provider develops certain application-specific integrated circuits for our products pursuant to our designs and specifications. The term of our agreement with this provider initially expired on March 24, 2016 but automatically renewed and will continue to renew for consecutive one-year periods unless either party provides notice of non-renewal. Due to our reliance on the components or products produced by suppliers such as these, we are subject to the risk of shortages and long lead times in the supply of certain components or products. We are still in the process of identifying alternative manufacturers for the assembly of our products and for most of the single-sourced components used in our products. In the case of off-the-shelf components, we are subject to the risk that our suppliers may discontinue or modify them or that the components may cease to be available on commercially reasonable terms. We have in the past experienced, and may in the future experience, component shortages or delays or other problems in product assembly, and the availability of these components or products may be difficult to predict. For example, our manufacturers may experience disruptions in their manufacturing operations due to equipment breakdowns, labor strikes or shortages, natural disasters, component or material shortages, cost increases, or other similar problems. Additionally, various sources of supply-chain risk, including strikes or shutdowns at delivery ports or loss of or damage to our products while they are in transit or storage, could limit the supply of our products. In the event of a shortage or supply interruption from suppliers of these components, we may not be able to develop alternate sources quickly, cost-effectively, or at all. Any interruption or delay in manufacturing, component supply, any increases in component costs, or the inability to obtain these parts or components from alternate sources at acceptable prices and within a reasonable amount of time, would harm our ability to provide our products to sellers on a timely basis. This could harm our relationships with our sellers, prevent us from acquiring new sellers, and materially and adversely affect our business.

Our business could be harmed if we are unable to accurately forecast demand for our products and to adequately manage our product inventory.

We invest broadly in our business, and such investments are driven by our expectations of the future success of a product. Our products, such as Square Reader, often require investments with long lead times. An inability to correctly forecast the success of a particular product could harm our business. We must forecast inventory needs and expenses and place orders sufficiently in advance with our third-party suppliers and contract manufacturers based on our

estimates of future demand for particular products. Our ability to accurately forecast demand for our products could be affected by many factors, including an increase or decrease in demand for our products or for our competitors' products, unanticipated changes in general market conditions, and the change in economic conditions.

If we underestimate demand for a particular product, our contract manufacturers and suppliers may not be able to deliver sufficient quantities of that product to meet our requirements, and we may experience a shortage of that product available for sale or distribution. The shortage of a popular product could materially and adversely affect our brand, our seller relationships, and the acquisition of additional sellers. If we overestimate demand for a particular product, we may experience excess inventory levels for that product and the excess inventory may become obsolete or out-of-date. Inventory levels in excess of demand may result in inventory write-downs or write-offs and the sale of excess inventory at further discounted prices, which could negatively impact our gross profit and our business.

Our products and services may not function as intended due to errors in our software, hardware, and systems, or due to security breaches or human error in administering these systems, which could materially and adversely affect our business.

Our software, hardware, and systems may contain undetected errors that could have a material adverse effect on our business, particularly to the extent such errors are not detected and remedied quickly. We have from time to time found defects in our customer-facing software and hardware, internal systems, and technical integrations with third-party systems, and new errors may be introduced in the future. In addition, we provide frequent incremental releases of product and service updates and functional enhancements, which increases the possibility of errors. The electronic payments products and services we provide are designed to process complex transactions and deliver reports and other information related to those transactions, all at high volumes and processing speeds. Since customers use our services for important aspects of their businesses, any errors, defects, disruptions in services, or other performance problems with our services could hurt our reputation and damage our customers' businesses. Software and system errors, or human error, could delay or inhibit settlement of payments, result in oversettlement, cause reporting errors, or prevent us from collecting transaction fees, all of which have occurred in the past. Similarly, security breaches or errors in our hardware design or manufacture could cause product safety issues typical of consumer electronics devices. Such issues could lead to product recalls and inventory shortages, result in costly and time-consuming efforts to redesign and redistribute our products, give rise to regulatory inquiries and investigations, and result in lawsuits and other liabilities and losses, which could have a material and adverse effect on our business.

Systems failures, interruptions, delays in service, catastrophic events, and resulting interruptions in the availability of our products or services, or those of our sellers, could harm our business and our brand, and subject us to substantial liability.

Our systems and those of our third-party data center facilities may experience service interruptions, denial-of-service and other cyber-attacks, human error, earthquakes, hurricanes, floods, fires, natural disasters, power losses, disruptions in telecommunications services, fraud, military or political conflicts, terrorist attacks and other geopolitical unrest, computer viruses, or other events. Our systems are also subject to break-ins, sabotage, and acts of vandalism. Some of our systems are not fully redundant, and our disaster-recovery planning is not sufficient for all eventualities. In addition, as a provider of payments solutions, we are subject to increased scrutiny by regulators that may require specific business continuity and disaster recovery plans and more rigorous testing of such plans. This increased scrutiny may be costly and time-consuming and may divert our resources from other business priorities.

We have experienced and will likely continue to experience denial-of-service attacks, system failures, and other events or conditions that interrupt the availability or reduce the speed or functionality of our products and services. These events have resulted and likely will result in loss of revenue. In addition, they could result in significant expense to repair or replace damaged equipment and remedy resultant data loss or corruption. A prolonged interruption in the availability or reduction in the speed or other functionality of our products or services could materially harm our reputation and business. Frequent or persistent interruptions in our products and services could cause sellers to believe that our products and services are unreliable, leading them to switch to our competitors or to avoid our products and services, and could permanently harm our reputation and business. Moreover, to the extent that any system failure or similar event results in damages to customers or their businesses, these customers could seek compensation from us for their losses, and those claims, even if unsuccessful, would likely be time-consuming and costly for us to address.

A significant natural disaster could have a material and adverse impact on our business. Our headquarters and certain of our data center facilities are located in the San Francisco Bay Area, a region known for seismic activity. Despite any precautions we may take, the occurrence of a natural disaster or other unanticipated problems at our headquarters or data centers could result in lengthy interruptions in our services or could result in related liabilities. We have implemented a disaster recovery program, which enables us to move production to a back-up data center in the event

of a catastrophe.

Although this program is functional, it may prove to be inadequate, increasing the risk of interruptions in our services, which could have a material and adverse impact on our business. We do not maintain insurance sufficient to compensate us for the potentially significant losses that could result from disruptions to our services.

Significant natural or other disasters could also have a material and adverse impact on our sellers, which, in the aggregate, could in turn adversely affect our results of operations.

Square Capital is subject to additional risks relating to the availability of capital, seller receivables payments, availability and structure of its bank partnership and general macroeconomic conditions.

Square Capital, which includes our wholly owned subsidiary Square Capital, LLC, is subject to risks in addition to those described elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q. Maintaining and growing Square Capital is dependent on institutional

44

third party investors purchasing the loans originated by our partner bank. If such third parties fail to continue to purchase such loans or reduce the amount of future loans they purchase, then our partner bank may need to reduce originations, or we would need to fund the purchase of additional loans from our own resources. We then may have to reduce the scale of Square Capital, which could have a direct impact on our continued growth. If third parties reduce the price they are willing to pay for these loans or reduce the servicing fees they pay us in exchange for servicing the loans on their behalf, then the financial performance of Square Capital would be harmed.

Adverse changes in macroeconomic conditions could cause some Square Capital sellers to cease operating or to experience a decline in their payment processing volume, thereby rendering them unable to make payment on the receivables, unable to make repayment of loans and/or extend the repayment period beyond the contractual repayment terms on the loan. Sellers are contractually obligated to use Square as their only card payment processing service until the agreed-upon fixed amount of receivables or repayment of loans is made. To the extent a seller breaches this obligation, the seller would be liable for the balance of the receivables in respect of an MCA or an accelerated loan repayment. Absent a breach of the contract, the only recourse is to the business and not to any individual or other asset.

In addition, adverse changes in macroeconomic conditions could also lead to a decrease in the number of sellers suitable for Square Capital loans and strain our ability to correctly identify such sellers on behalf of our partner bank or manage the risk of non-payment or fraud as servicer of the loans. Similarly, if we fail to correctly predict or price the loans to sellers utilizing Square Capital, our business may be materially and adversely affected.

We have partnered with a partner bank to originate the loans. There has been, and may continue to be, regulatory interest in and/or litigation challenging partnered lending arrangements where a bank makes loans and then sells and assigns such loans to an entity that is engaged in assisting with the origination and servicing of the loan. If the partner bank ceases to partner with us, ceases to abide by the terms of our agreement with them, or cannot partner with us on commercially reasonable terms, and we are not able to find suitable alternatives and/or obtain licenses to make loans ourselves, Square Capital may be materially and adversely affected.

We intend to continue to explore other models and structures for Square Capital, including other forms of credit. Some of those models or structures would require, or be deemed to require, additional procedures, partnerships, licenses, or capabilities that we have not yet obtained or developed. Should we fail to expand and evolve Square Capital in this manner, or should these new models or structures, or new regulations or interpretations of existing regulations, impose requirements on us that are impractical or that we cannot satisfy, the future growth and success of Square Capital may be materially and adversely affected.

Our business is subject to extensive regulation and oversight in a variety of areas, all of which are subject to change and uncertain interpretation.

We are subject to a wide variety of local, state, federal, and international laws, regulations, and industry standards in the United States and in other countries in which we operate. These laws and regulations govern numerous areas that are important to our business, including consumer protection, privacy, fair lending, labor and employment, immigration, import and export practices, product labeling, competition, and marketing and communications practices, to name a few. Such laws and regulations are subject to evolving interpretations and application, and it can be difficult to predict how they may be applied to our business, particularly as we introduce new products and services and expand into new jurisdictions. Any perceived or actual breach of laws and regulations could negatively impact our business. It is possible that these laws and regulations could be interpreted or applied in a manner that would prohibit, alter, or impair our existing or planned products and services; that could cause us to be subject to audits, inquiries, or investigations; that could result in fines, injunctive relief, or other penalties; or that could require costly, time-consuming, or otherwise burdensome compliance measures from us.

In particular, as we seek to build a trusted and secure platform for commerce, and as we expand our network of sellers and buyers and facilitate their transactions and interactions with one another, we will increasingly be subject to laws and regulations relating to the collection, use, retention, security, and transfer of information, including the personally identifiable information of our employees and sellers and their customers. As with the other laws and regulations noted above, these laws and regulations may be interpreted and applied differently over time and from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, and it is possible they will be interpreted and applied in ways that will materially and adversely affect our business. We post on our website our privacy policies and practices concerning the collection, use, and disclosure of information. Any failure, real or perceived, by us to comply with our posted privacy policies or with any regulatory requirements or orders or other local, state, federal, or international privacy or consumer protection-related laws and regulations could cause sellers or their customers to reduce their use of our products and services and could materially and adversely affect our business.

Our business is subject to complex and evolving regulations and oversight related to our provision of payments services and other financial services.

The laws, rules, regulations, and licensing schemes that govern our business include or may in the future include those relating to banking, lending, deposit-taking, cross-border and domestic money transmission, foreign exchange, payments services (such as payment processing and settlement services), consumer financial protection, anti-money laundering, escheatment, and compliance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard, a set of requirements designed to ensure that all companies that process, store, or transmit payment card information maintain a secure environment to protect cardholder data. These laws, rules, and regulations are enforced by multiple authorities and governing bodies in the United States, including the Department of the Treasury, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and numerous state and local agencies. Outside of the United States, we are subject to additional laws, rules, and regulations related to the provision of payments and financial services, including those enforced by the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry in Japan, and those enforced by the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre. As we expand into new jurisdictions, the number of foreign regulations and regulators governing our business will expand as well. Square Capital has shifted from offering MCAs to offering loans through a partnership with a Utah-chartered, member FDIC industrial bank. In this transition, additional state and federal requirements concerning lending have become applicable. In addition, as our business continues to develop and expand, we may become subject to additional rules and regulations. Similarly, if we choose to offer Square Payroll in more jurisdictions, additional regulations, including tax rules, will apply.

Although we have a compliance program focused on applicable laws, rules, and regulations and are continually investing more in this program, we may still be subject to fines or other penalties in one or more jurisdictions levied by federal, state or local regulators, including state Attorneys General, as well as those levied by foreign regulators. In addition to fines, penalties for failing to comply with applicable rules and regulations could include significant criminal and civil lawsuits, forfeiture of significant assets, increased licensure requirements, or other enforcement actions. We could also be required to make changes to our business practices or compliance programs as a result of regulatory scrutiny. In addition, any perceived or actual breach of compliance by us with respect to applicable laws, rules, and regulations could have a significant impact on our reputation as a trusted brand and could cause us to lose existing customers, prevent us from obtaining new customers, require us to expend significant funds to remedy problems caused by breaches and to avert further breaches, and expose us to legal risk and potential liability.

We have obtained licenses to operate as a money transmitter (or its equivalent) in the United States and in the states where this is required. As a licensed money transmitter, we are subject to obligations and restrictions with respect to the investment of customer funds, reporting requirements, bonding requirements, and inspection by state regulatory agencies concerning those aspects of our business considered money transmission. Evaluation of our compliance efforts, as well as the questions of whether and to what extent our products and services are considered money transmission, are matters of regulatory interpretation and could change over time. In the past, we have been required to pay fines to Florida regulatory authorities and once received a Cease and Desist Order from Illinois regulatory authorities due to their interpretations and applications to our business of their respective state money transmission laws. In the future, as a result of the regulations applicable to our business, we could be subject to additional liability, including governmental fines, restrictions on our business, or other sanctions, and we could be forced to cease conducting certain aspects of our business with residents of certain jurisdictions, be forced to otherwise change our business practices in certain jurisdictions, or be required to obtain additional licenses or regulatory approvals. There can be no assurance that we will be able to obtain any such licenses, and, even if we were able to do so, there could be substantial costs and potential product changes involved in maintaining such licenses, which could have a material and adverse effect on our business.

We are subject to risks related to litigation, including intellectual property claims and regulatory disputes.

We may be, and in some instances have been, subject to claims, lawsuits (including class actions and individual lawsuits), government investigations, and other proceedings involving intellectual property, consumer protection, privacy, labor and employment, immigration, import and export practices, product labeling, competition, accessibility, securities, tax, marketing and communications practices, commercial disputes, and other matters. For example, we are involved in a putative class action lawsuit concerning independent contractors in connection with our Caviar business, alleging that the couriers have been improperly denied reimbursement for business expenses due to their classification as independent contractors.

The number and significance of our legal disputes and inquiries have increased as we have grown larger, as our business has expanded in scope and geographic reach, and as our products and services have increased in complexity.

Becoming a public company has raised our public profile, which could result in increased litigation. In addition, some of the laws and regulations affecting the internet, mobile commerce, payment processing, business financing, and employment

did not anticipate businesses like ours, and many of the laws and regulations affecting us have been enacted relatively recently. As a result, there is substantial uncertainty regarding the scope and application of many of the laws and regulations to which we are subject, which increases the risk that we will be subject to claims alleging violations of those laws and regulations. In the future, we may also be accused of having, or be found to have, infringed or violated third-party intellectual property rights.

Regardless of the outcome, legal proceedings can have a material and adverse impact on us due to their costs, diversion of our resources, and other factors. Plaintiffs may seek, and we may become subject to, preliminary or provisional rulings in the course of litigation, including preliminary injunctions requiring us to cease some or all of our operations. We may decide to settle legal disputes on terms that are unfavorable to us. Furthermore, if any litigation to which we are a party is resolved adversely, we may be subject to an unfavorable judgment that we may not choose to appeal or that may not be reversed upon appeal. We may have to seek a license to continue practices found to be in violation of a third party's rights. If we are required, or choose to enter into, royalty or licensing arrangements, such arrangements may not be available on reasonable terms or at all and may significantly increase our operating costs and expenses. As a result, we may also be required to develop or procure alternative non-infringing technology or discontinue use of technology, and doing so could require significant effort and expense or may not be feasible. In addition, the terms of any settlement or judgment in connection with any legal claims, lawsuits, or proceedings may require us to cease some or all of our operations or pay substantial amounts to the other party and could materially and adversely affect our business.

Our intellectual property rights are valuable, and any inability to protect them could reduce the value of our products, services, and brand.

Our trade secrets, trademarks, copyrights, patents, and other intellectual property rights are critical to our success. We rely on, and expect to continue to rely on, a combination of confidentiality, invention assignment, and license agreements with our employees, consultants, and third parties with whom we have relationships, as well as trademark, trade dress, domain name, copyright, trade secret, and patent rights, to protect our brand and other intellectual property rights. However, various events outside of our control may pose a threat to our intellectual property rights, as well as to our products and services. Effective protection of trademarks, copyrights, domain names, patent rights, and other intellectual property rights is expensive and difficult to maintain, both in terms of application and maintenance costs, as well as the costs of defending and enforcing those rights. The efforts we have taken to protect our intellectual property rights may not be sufficient or effective. Our intellectual property rights may be infringed, misappropriated, or challenged, which could result in them being narrowed in scope or declared invalid or unenforceable. Similarly, our reliance on unpatented proprietary information and technology, such as trade secrets and confidential information, depends in part on agreements we have in place with employees and third parties that place restrictions on the use and disclosure of this intellectual property. These agreements may be insufficient or may be breached, or we may not enter into sufficient agreements with such individuals in the first instance, in either case potentially resulting in the unauthorized use or disclosure of our trade secrets and other intellectual property, including to our competitors, which could cause us to lose any competitive advantage resulting from this intellectual property. Individuals not subject to invention assignment agreements may make adverse ownership claims to our current and future intellectual property. There can be no assurance that our intellectual property rights will be sufficient to protect against others offering products or services that are substantially similar to ours and that compete with our business.

As of September 30, 2016, we had 207 patents issued in the United States and abroad and 556 patent applications on file in the United States and abroad, though there can be no assurance that any or all of these applications will ultimately be issued as patents. We also pursue registration of copyrights, trademarks, and domain names in the United States and in certain jurisdictions outside of the United States, but doing so may not always be successful or cost-effective. In general, we may be unable or, in some instances, choose not to obtain legal protection for our intellectual property, and our existing and future intellectual property rights may not provide us with competitive advantages or distinguish our products and services from those of our competitors. The laws of some foreign countries

do not protect our intellectual property rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States, and effective intellectual property protection and mechanisms may not be available in those jurisdictions. We may need to expend additional resources to defend our intellectual property in these countries, and the inability to do so could impair our business or adversely affect our international expansion. Our intellectual property rights may be contested, circumvented, or found unenforceable or invalid, and we may not be able to prevent third parties from infringing, diluting, or otherwise violating them.

Significant impairments of our intellectual property rights, and limitations on our ability to assert our intellectual property rights against others, could have a material and adverse effect on our business.

We may not be able to secure financing on favorable terms, or at all, to meet our future capital needs.

We have funded our operations since inception primarily through equity financings, bank credit facilities, and capital lease arrangements. We do not know when or if our operations will generate sufficient cash to fund our ongoing operations. In the future, we may require additional capital to respond to business opportunities, refinancing needs, challenges, acquisitions, or unforeseen circumstances and may decide to engage in equity or debt financings or enter into credit facilities for other reasons, and we may not be able to secure any such additional debt or equity financing or refinancing on favorable terms, in a timely manner, or at all. Any debt financing obtained by us in the future could also involve restrictive covenants relating to our capital-raising activities and other financial and operational matters, which may make it more difficult for us to obtain additional capital and to pursue business opportunities, including potential acquisitions. Our credit facility contains operating covenants, including customary limitations on the incurrence of certain indebtedness and liens, restrictions on certain inter-company transactions, and limitations on the amount of dividends and stock repurchases. Our ability to comply with these covenants may be affected by events beyond our control, and breaches of these covenants could result in a default under the credit facility and any future financial agreements into which we may enter. If not waived, defaults could cause our outstanding indebtedness under our credit facility and any future financing agreements that we may enter into to become immediately due and payable.

If we raise additional funds through further issuances of equity, convertible debt securities, or other securities convertible into equity, our existing stockholders could suffer significant dilution in their percentage ownership of our company, and any new equity securities we issue could have rights, preferences, and privileges senior to those of holders of our Class A common stock. If we are unable to obtain adequate financing or financing on terms satisfactory to us when we require it, our ability to continue to grow or support our business and to respond to business challenges could be significantly limited.

Any acquisitions, strategic investments, entries into new businesses, divestitures, and other transactions could fail to achieve strategic objectives, disrupt our ongoing operations, and harm our business.

In pursuing our business strategy, we routinely conduct discussions and evaluate opportunities for possible acquisitions, strategic investments, entries into new businesses, divestitures, and other transactions. We continue to seek to acquire or invest in businesses, apps, or technologies that we believe could complement or expand our products and services, enhance our technical capabilities, or otherwise offer growth opportunities. We also have limited experience in acquiring other businesses. In addition to opportunity costs, these transactions involve large challenges and risks, whether or not such transactions are completed, including risks that:

- the transaction may not advance our business strategy;

- we may be unable to identify opportunities on terms acceptable to us;

- we may not realize a satisfactory return or increase our revenue;

 - we may experience disruptions on our on-going operations and divert management's attention;

- we may be unable to retain key personnel;

- we may experience difficulty in integrating technologies, IT systems, accounting systems, culture, or personnel;

- acquired businesses may not have adequate controls, processes and procedures to ensure compliance with laws and regulations, and our due diligence process may not identify compliance issues or other liabilities;

- we may have difficulty entering new market segments;

- we may be unable to retain the customers and partners of acquired businesses;

- there may be unknown, underestimated, or undisclosed commitments or liabilities, including actual or threatened litigation;

- there may be regulatory constraints, particularly competition regulations that may affect the extent to which we can maximize the value of our acquisitions or investments; and

- acquisitions could result in dilutive issuances of equity securities or the incurrence of debt.

We may also choose to divest certain businesses or product lines that no longer fit with our strategic objectives. If we decide to sell assets or a business, we may have difficulty obtaining financing or selling on acceptable terms in a timely manner.

Additionally, we may experience difficulty separating out portions of or entire businesses, incur potential loss of revenue or experience negative impact on margins. Such potential transactions may also delay achievement of our strategic objectives, cause us to incur additional expenses, potentially disrupt seller relationships, and expose us to unanticipated or on-going obligations and liabilities.

Our reported financial results may be materially and adversely affected by changes in accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Generally accepted accounting principles in the United States are subject to interpretation by the FASB, the SEC, and various bodies formed to promulgate and interpret appropriate accounting principles. A change in these principles or interpretations could have a significant effect on our reported financial results and could materially and adversely affect the transactions completed before the announcement of a change.

We may have exposure to greater-than-anticipated tax liabilities, which may materially and adversely affect our business.

We are subject to income taxes and non-income taxes in the United States and other countries in which we conduct business, and such laws and rates vary by jurisdiction. We are subject to review and audit by U.S. federal, state, local and foreign tax authorities. Such tax authorities may disagree with tax positions we take and if any such tax authority were to successfully challenge any such position, our financial results and operations could be materially and adversely affected. In addition, our future tax liability could be adversely affected by changes in tax laws, rates, and regulations. The determination of our worldwide provision for income and other taxes is highly complex and requires significant judgment, and there are many transactions and calculations where the ultimate tax determination is uncertain. Although we believe our estimates are reasonable, the amount ultimately payable may differ from amounts recorded in our financial statements and may materially affect our financial results in the period or periods for which such determination is made.

Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock

The dual class structure of our common stock has the effect of concentrating voting control within our stockholders who held our stock prior to our initial public offering, including many of our employees and directors and their affiliates; this will limit or preclude your ability to influence corporate matters.

Our Class B common stock has ten votes per share, and our Class A common stock has one vote per share. Stockholders who hold shares of Class B common stock, including many of our executive officers, employees, and directors and their affiliates, held approximately 92% of the voting power of our outstanding capital stock as of September 30, 2016. Our executive officers and directors and their affiliates held approximately 57.1% of the voting power of our outstanding capital stock as of September 30, 2016. Because of the ten-to-one voting ratio between our Class B and Class A common stock, the holders of our Class B common stock collectively hold more than a majority of the combined voting power of our common stock, and therefore such holders are able to control all matters submitted to our stockholders for approval. When the shares of our Class B common stock represent less than 5% of the combined voting power of our Class A common stock and Class B common stock, the then-outstanding shares of Class B common stock will automatically convert into shares of Class A common stock.

Transfers by holders of Class B common stock will generally result in those shares converting to Class A common stock, subject to limited exceptions, such as certain transfers to entities, including certain charities and foundations, to the extent the transferor retains sole dispositive power and exclusive voting control with respect to the shares of Class B common stock. Such conversions of Class B common stock to Class A common stock upon transfer will have the effect, over time, of increasing the relative voting power of those holders of Class B common stock who retain their shares in the long term. If, for example, our stockholders who held our stock prior to our initial public offering retain a

significant portion of their holdings of Class B common stock for an extended period of time, they could, in the future, continue to control a majority of the combined voting power of our outstanding capital stock.

We will continue to incur significantly increased costs and devote substantial management time as a result of operating as a public company.

As a public company, we incur significant legal, financial, and other expenses that we did not incur as a private company. We are subject to the reporting requirements of the Exchange Act and are required to comply with the applicable requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, as well as the rules and regulations subsequently implemented by the SEC and the listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange, including changes in corporate governance practices and the establishment and maintenance of effective disclosure and financial controls. We are required to furnish a report by management on, among other things, the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting

for the first fiscal year beginning after the effective date of our initial public offering. This assessment will need to include disclosure of any material weaknesses identified by our management in our internal control over financial reporting, as well as a statement that our auditors have issued an attestation report on our management's assessment of our internal controls. We expect that complying with these requirements will increase our legal and financial compliance costs and will make some activities more time consuming and costly. In addition, we expect that our management and other personnel will need to divert attention from operational and other business matters to devote substantial time to these requirements. In particular, we expect to incur significant expenses and devote substantial management effort toward ensuring compliance with the requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. We will need to hire additional accounting and financial staff with appropriate public company experience and technical accounting knowledge and maintain an internal audit function. Moreover, we could incur additional compensation costs in the event that we decide to pay cash compensation closer to that of other public technology companies, which would increase our general and administrative expenses and could materially and adversely affect our profitability.

If we are unable to implement and maintain effective internal controls over financial reporting in the future, investors may lose confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports, and the market price of our Class A common stock may be materially and adversely affected.

We are currently evaluating our internal controls, identifying and remediating deficiencies in those internal controls, and documenting the results of our evaluation, testing, and remediation. We may not be able to complete our evaluation, testing, and any required remediation in a timely fashion. If we identify one or more material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting that we are unable to remediate before the end of the same fiscal year in which the material weakness is identified, or if we are otherwise unable to maintain effective internal controls over financial reporting, we will be unable to assert that our internal controls are effective. If we are unable to do so, or if our auditors are unable to attest to management's report on the effectiveness of our internal controls, we could lose investor confidence in the accuracy and completeness of our financial reports, which could cause the price of our Class A common stock to decline. We have identified significant deficiencies in our internal control over financial reporting in the past and have taken steps to remediate such deficiencies. However, our efforts to remediate them may not be effective or prevent any future deficiency in our internal control over financial reporting. We will be required to disclose material changes made in our internal controls and procedures on a quarterly basis. However, our independent registered public accounting firm will not be required to formally attest to the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act until our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016.

The market price of our Class A common stock has been and will likely continue to be volatile, and you could lose all or part of your investment.

The market price of our Class A common stock has been and may continue to be subject to wide fluctuations in response to various factors, some of which are beyond our control and may not be related to our operating performance. In addition to the factors discussed in this "Risk Factors" section and elsewhere in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, factors that could cause fluctuations in the market price of our Class A common stock include the following:

- price and volume fluctuations in the overall stock market from time to time;
- volatility in the market prices and trading volumes of companies in our industry or companies that investors consider comparable;
- changes in operating performance and stock market valuations of other companies generally or of those in our industry in particular;
- sales of shares of our common stock by us or our stockholders;
- failure of securities analysts to maintain coverage and/or to provide accurate consensus results of us, changes in financial estimates by securities analysts who follow us, or our failure to meet these estimates or the expectations of investors;

the financial or other projections we may provide to the public, any changes in those projections, or our failure to meet those projections;
announcements by us or our competitors of new products or services;
the public's reaction to our press releases, other public announcements, and filings with the SEC;

rumors and market speculation involving us or other companies in our industry;
actual or anticipated changes in our results of operations;
changes in the regulatory environment;
actual or anticipated developments in our business, our competitors' businesses, or the competitive landscape generally;
litigation involving us, our industry, or both, or investigations by regulators into our operations or those of our competitors;
announced or completed acquisitions of businesses or technologies by us or our competitors;
new laws or regulations or new interpretations of existing laws or regulations applicable to our business;
changes in accounting standards, policies, guidelines, interpretations, or principles;
any significant change in our management; and
general economic conditions and slow or negative growth of our markets.

In addition, in the past, following periods of volatility in the overall market and the market price of a particular company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been instituted against these companies. This litigation, if instituted against us, could result in substantial costs and a diversion of our management's attention and resources.

Anti-takeover provisions contained in our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws, and provisions of Delaware law, could impair a takeover attempt.

Our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, our amended and restated bylaws, and Delaware law contain provisions which could have the effect of rendering more difficult, delaying, or preventing an acquisition deemed undesirable by our board of directors and therefore depress the trading price of our Class A common stock.

Among other things, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws include provisions (i) creating a classified board of directors whose members serve staggered three-year terms; (ii) authorizing "blank check" preferred stock, which could be issued by our board of directors without stockholder approval and may contain voting, liquidation, dividend, and other rights superior to our common stock; (iii) limiting the ability of our stockholders to call special meetings; (iv) eliminating the ability of our stockholders to act by written consent without a meeting or to remove directors without cause; and (v) requiring advance notice of stockholder proposals for business to be conducted at meetings of our stockholders and for nominations of candidates for election to our board of directors. These provisions, alone or together, could delay or prevent hostile takeovers and changes in control or changes in our management.

As a Delaware corporation, we are also subject to provisions of Delaware law, including Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, which prevents certain stockholders holding more than 15% of our outstanding capital stock from engaging in certain business combinations without the approval of our board of directors or the holders of at least two-thirds of our outstanding capital stock not held by such stockholder.

Any provision of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation, amended and restated bylaws, or Delaware law that has the effect of delaying or preventing a change in control could limit the opportunity for our stockholders to receive a premium for their shares of our capital stock and could also affect the price that some investors are willing to pay for our Class A common stock.

Our amended and restated bylaws provide that the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware will be the sole and exclusive forum for substantially all disputes between us and our stockholders, which could limit our stockholders' ability to obtain a favorable judicial forum for disputes with us or our directors, officers, or employees.

Our amended and restated bylaws provide that, unless we consent to the selection of an alternative forum, the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware is the sole and exclusive forum for (i) any derivative action or proceeding brought

on our

51

behalf; (ii) any action asserting a claim of breach of fiduciary duty owed by any of our directors, officers, or other employees to us or to our stockholders; (iii) any action asserting a claim arising pursuant to the Delaware General Corporation Law; or (iv) any action asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine. The choice of forum provision may limit a stockholder's ability to bring a claim in a judicial forum that it finds favorable for disputes with us or our directors, officers, or other employees, which may discourage such lawsuits against us and our directors, officers, and other employees. Alternatively, if a court were to find the choice of forum provision contained in our amended and restated bylaws to be inapplicable or unenforceable in an action, we may incur additional costs associated with resolving such action in other jurisdictions, which could have a material and adverse impact on our business.

If securities or industry analysts publish reports that are interpreted negatively by the investment community, publish negative research reports about our business, or cease coverage of our company or fail to regularly publish reports on us, our share price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our Class A common stock depends, to some extent, on the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us, our business, our market, or our competitors. We do not have any control over these analysts or the information contained in their reports. If one or more analysts publish research reports that are interpreted negatively by the investment community, or have a negative tone regarding our business, financial or operating performance, industry or end-markets, our share price could decline. In addition, if a majority of these analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to regularly publish reports on us, we could lose visibility in the financial markets, which could cause our share price or trading volume to decline.

We do not intend to pay dividends for the foreseeable future.

We currently intend to retain any future earnings to finance the operation and expansion of our business, and we do not expect to declare or pay any dividends in the foreseeable future. As a result, you may only receive a return on your investment in our common stock if the trading price of our common stock increases. Investors seeking cash dividends should not purchase shares of our common stock.

Additional stock issuances could result in significant dilution to our stockholders.

We may issue additional equity securities to raise capital, make acquisitions, or for a variety of other purposes. Additional issuances of our stock may be made pursuant to the exercise or conversion of new or existing convertible debt securities, warrants, stock options, or other equity incentive awards to new and existing service providers. Any such issuances will result in dilution to existing holders of our stock. We rely on equity-based compensation as an important tool in recruiting and retaining employees. The amount of dilution due to equity-based compensation of our employees and other additional issuances could be substantial.

Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

Not applicable.

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

Not applicable.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

Not applicable.

Item 5. Other Information

Not applicable.

Item 6. Exhibits

Edgar Filing: Square, Inc. - Form 10-Q

The documents listed in the Exhibit Index of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are incorporated by reference or are filed with this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q (numbered in accordance with Item 601 of Regulation S-K).

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

SQUARE, INC.

Date: November 2, 2016 By: /s/ Jack Dorsey

Jack Dorsey

President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman

(Principal Executive Officer)

By: /s/ Sarah Friar

Sarah Friar

Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)

EXHIBIT INDEX

Exhibit Number	Description
10.1+	Offer Letter between the Registrant and Ajmere Dale, dated as of June 7, 2016 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 filed with the Registrant's Current Report on Form 8-K filed on August 29, 2016).
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Exchange Act Rules 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a), as adopted pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32.1†	Certifications of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.INS	XBRL Instance Document.
101.SCH	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document.
101.CAL	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document.
101.DEF	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document.
101.LAB	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Labels Linkbase Document.
101.PRE	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document.

† The certifications attached as Exhibit 32.1 that accompany this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are deemed furnished and not filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and are not to be incorporated by reference into any filing of Square, Inc. under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, whether made before or after the date of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q, irrespective of any general incorporation language contained in such filing.

+ Indicates management contract or compensatory plan.